THE LOVES OF CAMARUPA and CAMALATA,

AN ANCIENT INDIAN TALE.

ELUCIDATING THE

CUSTOMS and MANNERS of the ORIENTALS.

In a Series of ADVENTURES of

Rajah Cámarúpa, and his Companions.

TRANSLATED FROM THE PERSIAN

BY WILLIAM FRANKLIN,
Lieutenant on the Honourable the Eaſt India Company's
Bengal Eſtabliſhment.

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TO

SIR WILLIAM JONES, KNIGHT,

ONE OF THE JUDGES OF THE

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE IN BENGAL,

AND PRESIDENT OF THE

SOCIETY INSTITUTED AT CALCUTTA

FOR INQUIRING INTO THE ANTIQUITIES,

ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LITERATURE

OF ASIA,

THE FOLLOWING TALE

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

BY

HIS OBEDIENT, AND

FAITHFUL SERVANT,

THE TRANSLATOR.

CALCUTTA,
Nov. 10, 1799.

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PREFACE.

THE Tale presented to the Public in the following sheets, is a work held in much estimation by those natives who have perused the original. An attempt to elucidate the manners and customs of the Orientals will, it is presumed, render the performance acceptable. Since the institution of the Asiatic Society in 1784, Eastern Literature appears to have engaged the attention of the learned in Europe; it may therefore afford satisfaction to the readers

to

to be informed, that at the recommendation of the Prefident of that Society, the Tranflator was induced to devote a confiderable portion of his leifure hours to the prefent work; and fhould the attempt receive the approbation of a learned and enlightened Public, he fhall not deem his time and labour inefficiently employed.

RAJAH



RAJAH CAMARUPA.

HISTORIANS relate, that in the city of Oude, in the empire of Hindoſtan, there formerly reigned a prince, whoſe name was rajah Peti. This monarch was renowned throughout the univerſe for his excellent government, and ſtrict juſtice; but heaven had not yet granted him a ſon, who might aſſiſt him in the

the cares of the ſtate, and to whom he might tranſmit the empire after his deceaſe. To obtain this deſirable event, the rajah was conſtantly ſoliciting the prayers and interceſſions of the derviſhes, and other holy men of his court; of whom one of the moſt reſpectable, on account of the ſanctity of his life and the ſweetneſs of his manners, named Gyán Achárya, aſſured the king, that he ſhould ere long obtain the deſire of his heart; and to be ſhort, the rajah's favourite wife diſcovering ſigns of pregnancy, in due time a ſon was born, whom the prince immediately named Cámarúpa.

The ſtory relates, that Cáma-rúpa paſſed on until he arrived at his fifteenth year, during which time he had made a wonderful progreſs in every branch of education and ſcience, and was eſteemed by all, the moſt accompliſhed prince of his time.

Having taken a great delight in the pleaſures of the chace, his father the rajah determined to indulge his inclinations; and that he might enjoy his favourite diverſion the more pleaſantly, he built an elegant hunting-ſeat for him in the center of a ſpacious foreſt, abounding in all ſorts

of game, and adorned with lofty trees, and ſtreams of delicious water. No expence was ſpared to render this abode as perfect as poſſible. Here the prince Cáma-rúpa, and ſix of his favourite companions, young men of his father's court, uſed to divert themſelves in the pleaſures of the chace for many days together.

Of theſe young men, the ſtory informs us, the following were the names: The firſt was Mitra Chandra, ſon to the vizier of rajah Peti, a moſt accompliſhed young man, who bore an excellent character at court for his

fidelity

fidelity upon all occaſions. This youth was more beloved by the prince, than any of the reſt. The ſecond young man was named Vidyá Chandra, the ſon of Pundit Rajah, a perſon eminent for his learning, and accompliſhments in the polite arts. The third was Dhanwantari Tubeel, who attached himſelf to the ſtudy of phyſic, and had made a conſiderable progreſs in that very reſpectable profeſſion. The fourth was Chitra Mana, a painter of great excellence. The fifth was Mánickya Chandra, a jeweller, who profeſſed a wonderful knowledge of precious ſtones, and was looked

upon as a ſkilful maſter. The ſixth and laſt was Calávat Raſa Ranga, famous for his ſkill in muſic. All theſe young men were attached to Cámarúpa by the ſtricteſt ties of friendſhip and affection, and were never ſeparated from him.

This party having one day ſpent their time in merriment at the hunting-ſeat above mentioned, in the evening a moſt ſumptuous entertainment was prepared, where the banquet was enlivened by the choiceſt muſicians and dancers, and wine of the firſt quality was ſerved up in cups of pure gold

by

by the hands of youthful cup-bearers, whoſe cheeks outvied the bluſhing roſe. They continued to a late hour of the night, when, wearied with pleaſure, they retired to their repoſe, each to his ſeparate apartment.

Rajah Cámarúpa, on falling aſleep, had the following remarkable dream. He thought that being in company with his beloved friend Mitra Chandra, they on a ſudden found themſelves at the gate of a magnificent city, fair and glorious as the ſun, and of ſuch exquiſite ſplendour as the eye had never ſeen, nor travel-

lers had ever defcribed. Adjoining to the city walls, was a garden of moft elegant appearance, adorned with graceful cyprefs trees, and fountains of delicious water. Into this garden the prince and his friend entered, but they had not been long there, when the keepers of the place approaching informed them, that the princefs Cámalatà, daughter of the fovereign of Serendip, was then in the garden, having come thither for the purpofe of taking her accuftomed recreation. Upon this intelligence, rajah Cámarúpa and his friend Mitra Chandra, much aftonifhed, were fearful of giving

giving offence; and not having an opportunity of retreating, retired underneath a ſhrubbery of roſes, where they concealed themſelves. In the mean time the princeſs Rana Kaam Lettaü, in the bloom of youth and beauty, and breathing forth all the fragrance of the early ſpring, attended by her damſels, viſited the garden, to recreate themſelves with the ſweetneſs of the air and the perfumes of the roſes. While they were thus employed, one of the attendants upon the princeſs happening to approach the ſhrubbery where the men were concealed, perceived the rajah and his companion ſit-

ting on the ground, and immediately going up to them, thus addreſſed them: "Rude ſtrangers! "from whence do you thus intrude upon the privacy of our "miſtreſs, and who are ye?"

Rajah Cámarúpa upon this replied, "Fair Lady, the perſon "whom you ſee before you, is "the ſon of Rajah Peti, the "ſovereign of the kingdom of "Oude; and this is his friend "Mitra Chandra. Having partaken of the pleaſures of the "chace, we chanced to ſtray towards this delicious garden, and "you coming unexpectedly, we

"had

"had no time to retreat; we "accordingly concealed ourſelves "under this ſhrubbery, in order "that we might not, by our ap- "pearance, give offence. As "we are therefore ſtrangers here, "we hope the rights of ho- "ſpitality will not be vio- "lated."

The attendant, without replying to this addreſs, haſtened back to her miſtreſs, and related the affair to her. Rana Kaam Lettaü upon this intelligence became enraged, and the bluſh of virgin modeſty, heightened with diſcon-

difcontent, appearing in her cheek, a fuffufion in colour like the rofe overfpread it. Looking then on her attendants, fhe ordered them inftantly to go and acquaint the king her father with the circumftance, that he might inflict a proper punifhment upon the infolent ftrangers, who had thus violated the rights and privileges of good manners. But one of her friends then in company, the beautiful Cámacatà, thus interceded for the ftrangers: "Miftrefs! it were better firft "to hear the apology of thefe "youths; they may perhaps un-

"know-

" knowingly have committed this " offence, and mercy and kind- " neſs to ſtrangers are ever moſt " acceptable to the Deity."

Softened by this addreſs, the princeſs commanded her favourite to introduce the ſtrangers to her preſence; ſhe joyfully obeying, approached them in a moſt graceful manner, and deſired them to accompany her to the Rana her miſtreſs, aſſuring them that they ſhould meet with the kindeſt treatment. Cámarúpa and his friend, elated with joy at this intelligence, followed the young lady, and ſoon arrived in the preſence

of

of the Rana Kaam Lettaü, whoſe beauty made ſuch inſtantaneous impreſſion upon the young prince, that at the firſt ſight of her he fell motionleſs to the earth. The princeſs, filled with grief at the ſituation of the beautiful young man, who had unknowingly taken poſſeſſion of her heart, approached him, and placing his head on her lap, ſhe poured upon his cheek the contents of a phial of roſe-water, which ſhe happened to have about her. This application reſtored the rajah to his reaſon, when caſting his eyes upon her enchanting face, and from the bottom of his heart fetching a deep

deep ſigh, he at once broke out into paſſionate exclamations. In ſhort, they immediately became enamoured with each other; while his friend Mitra Chandra became enraptured of the beauty of the generous lady who had ſo nobly ſtood up in their defence. Theſe four faithful lovers delivering themſelves up totally to their all-powerful paſſion, the time flew on in the moſt pleaſing manner, when the rajah Cámarúpa ſuddenly awaking from his dream, found himſelf in his own chamber.

The

The prince thus undeceived, uttered a loud ſhout, and inſtantly ſwooned away. His friends and companions, alarmed at ſo unaccuſtomed a noiſe, quickly ruſhed into his apartment, where they found him in the ſtate already deſcribed. Grieved at the ſight, they ſet up a loud lamentation, when the prince once more recovered from his trance, and caſt his eyes wildly around him, in ſearch of his beloved Cámalatà; but not perceiving her, his grief became exceſſive, and he again became motionleſs, until at length, by the aſſiſtance of Dhanwantari, who,

who, as above mentioned, was well ſkilled in phyſic, they once more brought him to his ſenſes; when, after weeping bitterly for the loſs of his miſtreſs, they quitted the foreſt all together, and carrying him to his own palace, informed the king his father, and the princeſs Rúpa Swarúpa his mother, of the unhappy accident that had befallen him.

The king diſtracted at this event, aſſembled the moſt ſkilful phyſicians of his kingdom, and requeſted them to alleviate the pitiable ſtate of his ſon's mind. After much conſultation, they gave it as their opinion, that from the ex-

ceſſive violence of the diſorder, and his ſon's perturbed imagination, nothing more at preſent could be done, than to adminiſter beverages which were of the lighteſt kind, and pleaſant to the palate; and theſe, with being kept quiet, were all that they could adviſe.

All this was done, but with no effect; the image of his dear miſtreſs ſtill haunted the mind of the unfortunate young Rajah, who having forgot her name, which he had learned in his ſleep, grew quite hopeleſs and deſpondent. All remedy and advice were vain and fruitleſs. His beloved friend Mitra

Chandra

Chandra never quitted him, but night and day ſat by his bed-ſide, partook of the griefs of his dear maſter, and endeavoured all in his power to alleviate them.

Rajah Cámarúpa perceiving the affection of his friend, was greatly ſoothed by his attention; and told him, that his diſorder was beyond the power of medicine; that the only thing which could poſſibly revive him, was to find out his beloved miſtreſs, of whoſe exiſtence he was aſſured, as his dream was too remarkable to be fictitious. He then related to him the particulars from beginning to end; and added,

that he had totally forgot the names of either his beloved princeſs, her father, or the country they were in; but that he ſhould never more be eaſy in his mind, until he had again found them out.

Mitra Chandra having heard the cauſe of his friend's diſorder, immediately acquainted his father the Rajah with it; who thereupon aſſembled all his counſellors, and required them to aſſiſt him with their advice in the preſent juncture. The aſſembly adviſed the king, to iſſue a proclamation throughout his dominions, that the moſt celebrated travellers and voyagers, who had

had viſited the different kingdoms of the world, ſhould appear in the imperial preſence, and inform the young Rajah of the moſt remarkable cities and kingdoms through which they had paſſed. By theſe means they hoped he would obtain the information wiſhed for, did ſuch a kingdom as his ſon had deſcribed in his dream really exiſt.

The king approved the advice, and proclamation was made accordingly. Many celebrated and experienced travellers appeared before the Rajah; but he did not gain the intelligence he expected.

At length a learned Brahmin, whoſe name was Samadhí Pachanan, appeared. This Brahmin, in the early part of his life, while the firſt down had not yet appeared upon his cheek, diſſevering the bonds of affection for his native country, and panting with a deſire of ſeeing the world, attached himſelf wholly unto travel; and year after year revolving, had viſited every thing remarkable in various climes and kingdoms, had traced the mazy paths of ſcience and knowledge, and was well-acquainted with the viciſſitudes of fortune, and the riſe, progreſs, and fall of potent empires.

Such

Such was the man whom Mitra Chandra on his arrival brought before the Rajah, who thus addreſſed him: " Learned Brahmin, of the " various kingdoms thou haſt vi- " ſited, what is in thy eſtimation " moſt worthy of praiſe?" The Brahmin, bowing reſpectfully, replied, " O prince! may the Al- " mighty Power prolong your days, " and add increaſe of happineſs to " them! your ſervant has ſeen " whatever is moſt rare and curious " in the world; has viſited many " cities, kingdoms, and empires; " but of none can he ſpeak with " ſuch praiſe and delight, as that of " the moſt illuſtrious city of Se-

 " rendib,

" rendib, ſituated on the borders
" of the Duan; the beauty and
" magnificence of which city
" ſurpaſs the utmoſt praiſe that the
" tongue of man can utter. A
" country, whoſe waters are more
" refreſhing than the waters of im-
" mortality; and whoſe air is purer
" than the breath of love in the
" ſeaſon of youth."

Cámarúpa at this name inſtantly recollecting what had paſſed in his dream, gave a ſcream of joy, and fainted away: Being revived by the aſſiſtance of his attendants, he earneſtly requeſted the Brahmin to relate to him every particular

he

he could recollect of Serendib. On this the Brahmin addressed the prince in the following manner:

" Know then, most illustrious
" sir! that the famous Rajah Chitra
" Peti reigns over the kingdom of
" Serendib; a prince exalted in
" dignity, and supremely fortunate;
" at whose feet most potent rulers
" do spread the saddle-cloth of
" obedience, and at whose nod an
" army, numerous as the stars, is
" subservient, and ready. This
" prince has an only daughter,
" bright in beauty as the moon,
" on whom the Creator of the
" universe

" univerſe has beſtowed the moſt
" ſplendid accomplifhments and
" endowments. The name of this
" moſt perfect princeſs is Rana
" Cámaláta."

Again was Cámarúpa deprived of ſenſe and motion; ſo violent was the effect, that thoſe about him imagined his ſoul had departed from his body in the exceſs of joy. But this fortunately was not the caſe, and the prince being once more reſtored to himſelf, with many thanks deſired the Brahmin to continue his account, which he did to the following effect:

" Be

" Be further informed, O auguſt " prince! that ſo tranſcendent is " the beauty of this princeſs, that " the moſt illuſtrious princes and " rajahs have repeatedly demanded " her in marriage of the king her " father; who hath ever determined, " that the perſon alone whom ſhe " approves, ſhall become the huſ- " band of the all-accompliſhed and " lovely Kaan Cata. It is reported " in the kingdom of Serendib, " that this princeſs has refuſed all " her numerous adorers, and that " her heart has been captivated by " the attractive form and manners " of a young prince whom ſhe " beheld in a delightful dream.

" With

" With him only ſhe is determin-
" ed to wed; and not having
" been able to find him out, or
" the country in which he reſides,
" ſhe has long pined under a moſt
" violent diſorder, which has
" baffled every attempt both of
" art and medicine. Your ſer-
" vant was the keeper of a temple
" in the kingdom of Serendib;
" and to that temple I have often
" ſeen the beauteous Rana Kaan
" Lettaii, and her intimate friend
" and companion Cámacála come,
" in order to offer up her prayers
" to the idols of her country. I
" have myſelf been an eye-witneſs
" of the beauty of that princeſs,
" who,

" who, except my lord, is verily
" the moſt accompliſhed and beſt
" of the human race. Heaven, no
" doubt, hath formed you for each
" other; and you, happy prince!
" are the perſon whom ſhe has
" beheld in her dream, and for
" the lucky moment of whoſe ar-
" rival ſhe moſt anxiouſly looks
" forward. Go then, moſt for-
" tunate of mortals, and in making
" yourſelf ſupremely bleſt, relieve
" the ſorrows of that beauteous
" mourner."

The Brahmin having gracefully finiſhed his relation, ſtopped; and the prince overcome with joy and rapture

rapture at the unexpected event, turning to his companion Mitra Chandra, thus ſpoke:

"At length, then, my friend, I "am indeed happy. The perſon "whom the Brahmin has juſt "deſcribed, is undoubtedly that "enchanting fair one, who hath "drawn ſo many drops of blood "from my faithful heart!"

Mitra Chandra, overjoyed at what had happened, haſtened to the king, and informed him of this unexpected event. The king immediately ſent for his ſon, and embracing him tenderly, told him

to

to give himſelf up to joy and pleaſure; as he would inſtantly ſend an ambaſſador to the kingdom of Serendib, with magnificent preſents, and demand in marriage the daughter of Rajah Chítra Peti, his beloved miſtreſs.

The prince returned his moſt reſpectful obedience to his father, and departed to his own palace, well-pleaſed, and reflecting on his good fortune; but after ſome days, his love getting the better of his patience, he took his friend aſide, and thus addreſſed him: "I find, "dear Mitra Chandra, I cannot "have patience to wait the return "of

" of the meſſengers from Serendib;
" my affection conſumes me like a
" burning flame, and if you wiſh
" to preſerve my life, haſten to
" my father, and obtain his per-
" miſſion that I myſelf may,
" without further delay, ſet off
" for the abode of my beloved
" miſtreſs; and that, by her pre-
" ſence alone, I may put an end
" to my grief and misfortune."

Mitra Chandra, ever obedient to his friend's commands, haſtened to the king, and informed him of his ſon's requeſt; adding, that he feared a denial of it might prove fatal to him, as he was deprived

already both day and night of his natural reſt, his thoughts being entirely taken up with the idea of his miſtreſs; Mitra Chandra therefore propoſed, that the Prince, travelling by land to Mutchelee Bunder, ſhould take ſhipping through the great ocean, for the iſland of Serendib.

The Rajah upon this intelligence aſſembled his miniſters and counſellors, and laid before them the propoſition of his ſon. They unanimouſly agreed that the king ſhould conſent to it. Having conſulted the aſtrologers for an auſpicious moment, preparations

ſuitable to the Prince's rank and dignity were made for his voyage, and at the appointed time they ſet out. The king his father, and the Rana Rúpa Swarúpa his mother, accompanied them the two firſt days. On the third day, they took their leave with the moſt heart-felt ſorrow and affliction, and recommended him to the protection of heaven.

The Prince, inſpired with the idea of his beloved miſtreſs, eagerly continued his route, with his companions, and the faithful Brahmin, who was to point out the road.

At

At length, after a very agreeable journey, they arrived ſafe at the port of Mutchelee Bunder. Here they purchaſed a ſhip, and embarked, with the neceſſary baggage and proviſions for the voyage; the anchor being weighed, they directed their courſe toward Serendib.

For ſome time they had a pleaſant paſſage; amuſing themſelves with talking of the kingdom of Serendib; and the enamoured Prince, of the praiſe of his beautiful miſtreſs; the hours paſſed away agreeably in mirth and joy. At length, after forty days ſailing, and every mi-

nute expecting the ſight of land, on a ſudden a violent tempeſt aroſe, when the dark clouds poured forth torrents of rain, and the raging billows increaſed to an enormous height. While they were toſſing about at the mercy of the contending elements, to increaſe their diſtreſs, the heavens appeared all on fire; flaſhes of vivid lightning darted around the veſſel, and the awful thunder roared tremendouſly above their heads. So terrible was the ſtorm, that what with the howling of the wind, and the roaring of the waves, one might have ſuppoſed the day of judgment to be at hand. A diſmal cry proceeded

ceeded from the wretches within the veſſel, expecting that every moment would be their laſt. This ſoon too fatally proved to be the caſe; for while they were in the moſt horrid anxiety, an enormous wave daſhed againſt the ſhip, and ſplit her into two parts. The whole company being left to the mercy of Providence, it happened that Rajah Cámarúpa, and the ſix companions who were with him, fortunately got hold of a ſmall boat belonging to the ſhip, into which they got, with the faithful Brahmin who was to be the conductor of their voyage. Theſe eight unfortunate people, thus committed

to the fury of the waves, looked around them, and beheld with horror their preſent dreadful ſituation. During this melancholy criſis, the unhappy Rajah Cámarúpa ſighed out the name of his beloved miſtreſs, while ſorrow ſat on his countenance. Fate, however, had not done perſecuting the objects of its vengeance, for the rage of the ſea ſtill increaſed, and the boat in which they were ſeated, by the violence of the waves was daſhed to pieces, and every ſoul plunged into the deep, excepting the Rajah, and his friend Mitra Chandra, who fortunately laid hold of a broken plank,

plank, and for ſome time ſtruggled againſt the violence of the ſtorm, which raged with unabated fury. Cámarúpa, in the midſt of his misfortunes, preſerved both his love and his fortitude, and exclaimed to his friend, "True love "is of ſuch a quality, that it re-"mains fixed in the heart of "man; and is ſo deeply impreſſed "there, that the utmoſt fury of "contending elements cannot eraſe "it."

In a little time the ſtorm began to abate, and the ſun to ſhine through the watery clouds, when the raging of the waves was

 at

at length quelled; and Cámarúpa and his friend returned thanks to the Divine Providence for their miraculous preſervation from ſuch imminent danger.

While they were congratulating each other on their eſcape, the waves a ſecond time began to roll, (ſuch was the Divine will!) when the raft on which they floated ſtruck on the back of a monſtrous whale, and was inſtantly ſevered into two parts; one of which bore away Cámarúpa, and the other his unfortunate friend Mitra Chandra, the waves every moment increaſing the diſtance between them.

Mitra

Mitra Chandra, in the extreme anguiſh of his ſoul, would have thrown himſelf into the water, and at once put a period to his exiſtence and misfortunes; had not Cámarúpa, perceiving his intention, conjured him by their common friendſhip, not to commit ſo raſh an action, but truſt to the care of Providence, and hope for better fortune. While he was thus conſoling his friend with ſtreaming eyes and aching heart, the envious waves continued to waft them farther aſunder, till at laſt they totally loſt ſight of each other.

Cámarúpa reſigned himſelf to his fate; after ſtruggling with hunger and thirſt for the ſpace of three days, he at length arrived within ſight of land, and was waſhed on ſhore on his plank.

Exhauſted and overcome with fatigue, he ſunk down to the ground, where he remained ſome time in a ſtate of inſenſibility. Recovering from this ſituation, he was prompted to return thanks to God for his preſervation, when caſting his eyes around, he found himſelf on a moſt delightful iſland, which abounded with trees of the fineſt fruit, and ſtreams of the moſt

delicious water. After a comfortable refreſhment, he ſeated himſelf by the ſide of a fountain, and began to reflect ſeriouſly on his fate. Reclining in a melancholy poſture, full of the idea of his dear miſtreſs, and now and then the thoughts of his loſt companion occurring to his memory, with heart-felt ſighs and tears trickling down his manly cheeks, he burſt forth into the moſt paſſionate exclamations on the viciſſitudes of his fortune; and, loſt in aſtoniſhment at the recollection of the ſcenes through which he had paſſed, inveighed bitterly againſt

againſt the wavering and inconſtant diſpoſition of tyrannic fate.

After a few days, the Prince ſet forward in ſearch of ſome human habitation; hoping ſoon to gain intelligence of the object of his affections. At mid-day perceiving at a diſtance ſomething black, he approached toward it, when to his unſpeakable joy he diſcovered a very handſome and populous city. Praiſing God for this unexpected diſcovery, he advanced to the gates, and preſently entering, perceived all the inhabitants to be women of extraor-

traordinary beauty and elegance; not a ſingle man could he diſcover among them. In the Indian language, theſe people are called the Tirea Raj.

Surpriſed at the novelty of the circumſtance, Cámarúpa ſtood muſing, when he was ſuddenly interrupted by the clamours of the women, who began to flock in great multitudes around him. Seizing hold of him, they bound his hands, and brought him before the chief magiſtrate of the city, who was alſo a woman. She ordered him to be carried to the

vizier,

vizier, and he presently ſent him to the queen of the country.

This princeſs was named Indrawati, and poſſeſſed moſt exquiſite beauty and accompliſhments. When the young Rajah appeared before her, the ſeeds of affection were fixed in her heart at firſt ſight, and ſhe became violently enamoured of him. Deeming it however unworthy of her princely dignity, to ſhew affection for a ſtranger, whom by the cuſtom of the country ſhe was obliged to puniſh; ſhe put on a ſtern air, and turning towards Cámarúpa, aſked him,

him, whence he came, and who he was that durft thus infolently enter dominions appertaining to a princefs of her rank and dignity? The Prince bowing, refpectfully replied: "May thy "life, O illuftrious queen, be pro-"longed! the perfon before you "is an unfortunate ftranger, ftruck "low by the cruel hand of fate and "misfortune. Journeying to the "kingdom of Serendib, my fhip "perifhed in a violent ftorm, and "a fmall plank, a piece of the "wreck, faved me. After wan-"dering for three days and nights, "I was caft upon this ifland; "where, after refrefhing myfelf "only

" only one night, in the morning
" I ſet forward in queſt of ſome
" human habitation. Eſpying this
" city, ſo fair and pleaſant to
" the eye, my heart rejoiced;
" and I comforted myſelf with
" the reflection, that I ſhould here
" find reſt and repoſe from the
" troubles and fatigues which I
" had lately undergone; but, alas,
" unhappy mortal that I am, I
" had no ſooner entered your city,
" than I was rudely ſeized, bound,
" and brought hither. Thus, O
" queen! having heard my ſtory,
" and conſidered at once my in-
" nocence and hard fortune, you
" will, I hope, extend your mercy
" and

" and compaſſion towards an un-
" fortunate ſtranger."

The Prince having finiſhed, the Queen after ſome conſideration replied, " As you profeſs, O ill-fated " ſtranger! to have offended un-" intentionally, your life is ſpared; " but impriſonment muſt be the " reward of your folly." So ſaying, ſhe ordered one of her attendants, the fair Pudmawati, to carry him to her place of abode, and there in chains confine him a priſoner. While ſhe iſſued this command, her eyes plainly belied the utterance of her lips, for the all-accompliſhed wanderer had taken

full poſſeſſion of her enamoured heart, and ſecret orders were given, to treat him with the utmoſt reſpect.

The obſequious Pudmawati, agreeably to the commands of her miſtreſs, led Cámarúpa to her habitation; and as ſhe well knew the impreſſion which he had made on the Queen, ſhe determined, in order to ingratiate herſelf with her miſtreſs, to treat him in the moſt ſumptuous manner. A magnificent banquet was prepared, and every delicacy that the ſeaſon could produce, together with the choiceſt wines, were ſerved up to the Rajah;

jah; who, aſtoniſhed to find ſuch a reverſe of fortune, and ſuch comfort and enjoyment after his late adverſity, poured forth his ſoul in grateful acknowledgments to the Deity; and after the banquet, retired to reſt.

In the morning, Pudmawati. going to the palace, related to her royal miſtreſs, what ſhe had remarked of Cámarúpa the preceding night. The Queen, on her friend's recital of the melancholy diſpoſition of the ſtranger, concluded, that the paſſion of love was centered in his breaſt, and determined to learn his true ſituation,

and the real ſtate of his heart. Accordingly ſhe ordered Pudmawati, in the ſilence of the night, to lead him privately to the royal banquet.

The confidant returning to Cámarúpa, related the commands of her miſtreſs, and her intentions reſpecting his ſituation, hinting to him at the ſame time, the paſſion with which he had inſpired her. The Prince returned thanks for the intended honour, and when night came, followed his kind conductreſs to the palace, where the Queen received them with much good humour and hoſpitality. After ſome

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converſation, ſurpriſed to find that the young ſtranger poſſeſſed ſuch uncommon accompliſhments, the Queen began to ſuſpect, that he was of no ignoble birth, but rather the offspring of ſome illuſtrious prince. An elegant banquet was ſerved up, youthful damſels whoſe cheeks outvied the bluſhing roſe attended, and goblets of the pureſt wines were preſented by graceful young cup-bearers, elegant in form and eaſy in manner and addreſs.

After prolonging the feaſt to a late hour of the night, the young Cámarúpa, delighted and mirthful, intreated the Princeſs to partake of

 the

the joys of the goblet. Indrawati ſmiling with ineffable grace replied, "Whilſt thou, O amiable "ſtranger, art the cup-bearer, how "can I refuſe to drink?" Cámarúpa, enraptured at her condeſcenſion, preſented the cup to the Queen in the moſt graceful attitude, at the ſame time reciting ſome verſes in praiſe of love and wine; upon which the Queen ordered in the dancers to heighten the amuſements.

While thus they paſſed away the time pleaſantly, and enamoured of each other, the Queen, in a moment of tenderneſs, requeſted that Cámarúpa

would

would inform her, who he was, the name of his parents and country, and the reafon why he had undertaken the voyage. The Prince, penetrated by the favours he had received, and unable to withftand fuch powerful folicitation, immediately related the whole of his adventures from firft to laft. Thefe were of fuch an affecting nature, that the Rana and all the affembly were diffolved into tears of compaffion at the recital. The Queen then turned to Cámarúpa, and thanking him for his information, affured him that fhe would take care to convey him to his defired port; and that fhe would alfo

make the moſt diligent ſearch after his loſt companions, whom ſhe hoped might be ſtill alive; "but," added ſhe, "in return for this, I "hope you will, O amiable Prince! "grace my court for a few days "with your preſence?"

The youthful Cámarúpa and the enſlaved Queen paſſed ſeveral days in mirth and feſtivity. The thoughts of his former miſtreſs, however, would ſometimes intrude into the perturbed mind of Cámarúpa, who at thoſe moments reproached himſelf for his infidelity to his lovely princeſs, and his forgetfulneſs of his loſt com-

companions. One night, while he lay aſleep, his miſtreſs, Rana Kaann Lettaii, appeared before him in a dream, when to his diſtempered imagination ſhe thus began to reproach him: "Ungrateful "Prince! whilſt I in ſorrow "and deſpair am mourning "your abſence, and impatiently "expecting your arrival, is it "thus that you are ſolacing "yourſelf with new loves, and "forgetful of your faithful miſ-"treſs, are liſtening to the vows "of others?" The Prince, awaking from his dream, his mind being agitated and diſtracted, drew a deep ſigh from the bottom of his

his breaſt, and became loſt to all ſenſation. Indrawati, who ſlept near him, on hearing the noiſe, went towards Cámarúpa, and beheld him lying without any ſigns of life. She inſtantly applied every means for his recovery, which having happily effected, ſhe aſked him the reaſon of this uncommon accident. He replied, that a frightful dream had ſorely afflicted him; but concealed the true reaſon of what had really happened.

Firmly reſolved to quit for ever this ſeat of his inconſtancy, the next evening, after the breaking up of the banquet, Cámarúpa

deſcended by a back ſtair-caſe into the palace garden, and throwing himſelf at the foot of a ſycamore tree, began to ruminate upon his unfortunate ſituation. The reflection of his infidelity to his beloved Kaann Lettaü and his abſent friends, pierced his tender heart with ſuch keen anguiſh, that the tears flowed plentifully down his cheeks. At length, oppreſſed with grief, ſleep inſenſibly and unwiſhed-for ſtole upon him, and he obtained a ſhort relief from his troubles.

At this period the beauteous Nárawati, daughter of the king of

of the fairies, attended by a train of her friends and women, taking her accuſtomed tour through the air to view the different parts of the earth, arrived at this garden. As the air was pleaſant, and the garden of moſt exquiſite beauty, being adorned with every thing that could render it delightful, ſhe determined to ſtop a little; and ordered the fairies, her attendants, to place her litter in one of the pleaſanteſt ſpots of the garden. They immediately obeyed. Adjoining to the ſpot, where the fairy litter was placed, lay the ſleeping youth. A party of the fairies, on a ſurvey of the different places

places in the garden, came unexpectedly to the tree under which the Rajah reclined. Casting their eyes on the young Prince as he lay asleep, they were smitten with astonishment at the exquisite beauty of his person and mien. Such elegant proportions they concluded more than human, and were led to conceive that he must be some angel descended from above for the benevolent purpose of assisting mankind. They immediately acquainted Nárawati their mistress with the circumstance; who, out of curiosity, came to the place, in order to be an eye-witness of the scene which her women had discovered.

ed. As ſoon as ſhe caſt her eyes on the Prince, the paſſion of love, at the ſight of ſo much beauty, forcibly ſeized hold of her breaſt, and ſhe determined to carry off this handſome mortal to her own city. She immediately ordered her attendants to bring her litter, and place Cámarúpa, who was ſtill aſleep, gently upon it. He was thus conveyed with amazing velocity to her native habitation, at the top of Mount Caf, the abode of the fairy race.

During this period, Queen Indrawati was anxiouſly expecting the return of her beloved captive

captive from the garden; but he not arriving, ſhe became very uneaſy at his abſence, and ſent ſome of her attendants in queſt of him. They quickly returned with the information, that they had in vain ſought for the Rajah. At which intelligence, the Queen was grievouſly afflicted, and her late joy was ſoon turned into the moſt piercing grief for the loſs of her amiable Prince.

The fairy Princeſs having conveyed Cámarúpa to Mount Caf, ordered her attendants to place him in the apartments of her own palace. Having gently ſprinkled his

his face with rofe-water, he awoke, when, throwing his eyes around him, and obferving that he was in a ftrange place, he was amazed to find himfelf tranfported to an unknown country. The fairy perceiving his aftonifhment, addreffed him in the following terms: "Be not fur-"prifed, O amiable fon of Adam! "at what you behold; you are in "the palace of the Queen of the "fairies, who feeing you by ac-"cident while you were afleep, fhe "became enamoured of your ex-"quifite beauty, and has refolved "that you fhould enjoy the plea-"fures of this delicious abode."

Camarúpa,

Cámarúpa, on hearing that he was upon Mount Caf, was plunged into exceſſive grief, and his lamentations were unceaſing. Well knowing that no human power could ever depart from that place without the permiſſion of the fairy race, Nárawati, in order to comfort him, endeavoured to afford him every amuſement that ſhe could deviſe; and accordingly ordered a magnificent banquet to be prepared. At this feaſt the bright-eyed cup-bearers aſſiſted, carrying goblets of the pureſt wine; while fairies, reſembling the flowers of paradiſe, waited on the young lovers in the moſt obſequious manner; nor was

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there wanting the delights of graceful dancers, to enhance the delight of her gueſt, and enliven the pleaſures of the entertainment.

The Prince, aſtoniſhed at thoſe honours, and raviſhed with the ſplendor of the banquet, which far ſurpaſſed any thing he had ever beheld, expreſſed his ſatiſfaction, and in the moſt grateful ſenſe became joyous and cheerful; though his heart pined in anguiſh for his ever-beloved Kaann Lettaü.

It happened that the father of this fairy Princeſs had already pro-

promiſed her in marriage to the ſon of a neighbouring Prince, who was of the ſame race, of the name of Soondaróo. The news of Cámarúpa's arrival, and of the Princeſs Nárawati being enamoured of him, was quickly conveyed to the ears of Soondaróo, who, filled with grief and rage at the intelligence, determined on puniſhing the preſumptuous mortal who had thus invaded his rights, and ſupplanted him in her affection. For this purpoſe, he called unto him two malicious Genii, who were ſubſervient to his commands, and ordered them to go privately to the palace of the fairy Queen, and

use every ſtratagem in their power to bring off the Prince Cámarúpa. Theſe demons prepared to obey the commands of their lord, and mounting in the air, like two dark clouds portending ſtorms and tempeſts, they ſpeedily arrived at the habitation of the queen Nárawati, and concealing themſelves in the garden, prepared to embrace the firſt opportunity that ſhould occur, to carry off the Prince; which they ſoon effected.

The following night the pleaſures of the banquet had been prolonged to a late hour, when the youth went forth into the garden,

in order to enjoy the cool air of the night; but, elevated with the wine he had drank, he wandered about ſome time, until ſleep overtook him, when he laid himſelf down upon a couch that was at hand. No ſooner was the unfortunate Prince wrapt in the arms of ſleep, than the two demons ruſhing forth from their hiding-place, ſeized him, bound him with cords, and conveyed him rapidly through the air to the habitation of their maſter; where having arrived, they laid the unfortunate Cámarúpa at the feet of his glad rival.

Soondaróo rejoiced that he had thus obtained poſſeſſion of the man whom his ſoul abhorred, and with a malicious ſmile ordered his attendants to awaken Cámarúpa, that he might have an opportunity of indulging his reſentment. Accordingly they roughly ſhook the Prince, and before he was well awake, the cruel Soondaróo began to revile him bitterly for his preſumption in aſpiring to one of fairy race, and endeavouring to ſupplant him in the affections of his betrothed miſtreſs. Cámarúpa replied with much modeſty, that his ſituation upon Mount Caf was by no means of his

his own feeking, but againft his inclination, having been furprifed and carried there whilft afleep; that the fairy Prince therefore fhould, in juftice, deem him innocent. Fortunately the mother of Soondaróo was prefent; taking compaffion on the unhappy Prince, fhe interceded with her fon in his behalf, and requefted that he might be liberated from his bonds, and conveyed to fome place far diftant from the abode of the fairies. Soondaróo, mollified by the reprefentation and defire of his mother, confented to her requeft, and immediately ordered the two demons to convey the

Prince into a diſtant iſland beyond the ſeas, and there leave him to his deſtiny. They accordingly laid hold of him, and conveyed him with incredible ſwiftneſs through the air, until they arrived at the intended iſland, where, quitting their burden, they inſtantly vaniſhed from his ſight.

Cámarúpa returned thanks to Providence for this unexpected releaſe. Caſting his eyes around, he perceived that he was on a moſt pleaſant iſland, which abounded with various ſorts of fruit-trees, and cool refreſhing ſtreams. Having ſatisfied his hunger and thirſt, he wan-

wandered about in ſearch of a habitation; when on a ſudden he beheld an old man, ſeemingly decrepid through extreme age, ſitting under the ſhade of a tree. Approaching him, he made a courteous ſalutation, which was anſwered willingly by the old man, who entered into a converſation, and inquired how he came into that iſland. Cámarúpa, pleaſed at his civility, related his adventures, and concluded with requeſting him to point out a place of reſt and abode; from whence, after a ſhort period, he might return back to his own country. The old man told him, that at a little

little diſtance from the place they were in, was his own habitation, which he had left that morning; but that as, on account of his extreme old age and imbecility, he was unable to walk, it was his uſual cuſtom to be brought hither on the ſhoulders of his children. At the ſame time he earneſtly requeſted the Prince to perform this friendly office, and promiſed him in return, that on his arrival at their houſe he ſhould be received in the moſt hoſpitable manner, and aſſiſted with every comfort that his heart could wiſh.. The Prince, prepoſſeſſed already in the old man's favour, thought the requeſt

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reaſonable and modeſt: without further converſation, therefore, he deſired him to get on his ſhoulders immediately, and for that purpoſe knelt down, in order that the old man might more eaſily ſeat himſelf. Accordingly he mounted, but was no ſooner firmly fixed on his ſhoulders, than he began to ſqueeze Cámarúpa violently round his neck; when the Prince, now too late, perceived that his legs were ſupple, and pliant like leather. The old wretch burſt into a loud laugh, and gave Cámarúpa a violent kick on the ſtomach, after addreſſing him thus: "O fooliſh youth, who art at

" length

"length fallen into my ſnare; "know that this iſland is the "abode of the men with the "leathern feet, who make it their "buſineſs to decoy ſtupid mortals "into their ſnare, in order that "they may uſe them as horſes; "which (added he) are very "ſcarce on this iſland. Be "aſſured, thou canſt never make "thy eſcape, but art condemned "to my ſervice and pleaſure, until "the end of thy life. Quicken "therefore thy pace, thou vile "raſcal; and carry me whereſo-"ever I liſt, that I may view the "iſland at my leiſure." The ill-fated Prince at firſt endeavoured to

ſhake off his troubleſome burthen, but finding, from repeated ſtruggles, that the curſed old fellow only kept the firmer in his ſeat, he deſiſted, and at once reſigned himſelf to the bitter pangs of grief and deſpair.

Cámarúpa continued in this ſituation many days, conſtantly carrying about the old deceitful wretch, and deviſing within himſelf every probable means of getting rid of him. One day obſerving great numbers of men approaching toward him, he conceived this to be a favourable opportunity of effecting his deliverance;

ance; but on a nearer view he found them to be a company of old men fimilar to the one he carried, each of whom rode upon an unhappy prifoner like himfelf. They had brought with them a quantity of frefh grapes with which they intended to regale. The firft old man faluted them as they approached, and defired that they would make fome dooſhab with the grapes they had brought. This is a beverage compofed of the juice of the grape, honey, and dates. At this period it came into the mind of Cámarúpa, to put in prac- tice the ftratagem which he had

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meditated within himſelf. He deſir-ed that the old man whom he carried, inſtead of dooſhab, might make ſome excellent wine; adding, that if he was ignorant how to do it, he would prepare a ſpecimen for him to taſte. The old man, who had never taſted wine in his life, nor even heard of it, aſked Cámarúpa what he meant by wine, bid him prepare ſome inſtantly, and told him, that if it was a pleaſanter liquor than dooſhab, he ſhould, in return for his preſent, receive a reward from the aſſembly. Cámarúpa inſtantly began to make the wine, and having prepared it according to his own taſte, he

he filled a large goblet, and preſented it confidently to his old maſter, who at one draught drank off the whole. The effect was inſtantly viſible, he began to ſing and laugh, and demanded another cup; which Cámarúpa alſo gave him, at the ſame time filling other large cups, and preſenting them alternately to the company; till, in ſhort, they all drank ſo plentifully, as to become quite intoxicated, and were conſequently careleſs of their priſoners. Cámarúpa now found the long looked-for opportunity, and by repeated potations, ſoon made the old man, whom he himſelf carried, com-

pletely

pletely inebriated; who then, unable to refiſt the efforts of the Prince, or any longer keep his hold, fell ſuddenly from his ſhoulders to the ground. Cámarúpa inſtantly ſeizing a weighty ſtone, daſhed out his brains, and freed himſelf from ſo deteſtable a plague.

The other priſoners perceiving the good effects of this ſtratagem, did the ſame with thoſe they carried, and by theſe means they were all liberated. As ſoon as the old men were dead, the remainder of the company fell at the feet of Cámarúpa, and acknowledged the great obligations they were under

to him, for having releaſed them from ſo cruel an impriſonment, vowing an everlaſting fidelity and affection toward him.

Cámarúpa perceiving one whom he thought he knew, bid him draw near, and deſired that he would inform him by what accident he arrived in the iſland. The man replied, That after a variety of misfortunes and diſtreſſes he had come thither; and told him, that originally he was a native of the city of Oude in Indoſtan, the ſon of the Vizier of Rajah Peti, ſovereign of that country, and that his name was Mitra Chandra. Cámarúpa inſtantly

ſtantly recollected his old and faithful friend, and was ſo affected by the event, that he nearly fainted away. As ſoon as he had recovered, he went up to him, and embraced him with much affection; then bidding him obſerve him more narrowly, told him that he was the Rajah Cámarúpa, his prince and faithful friend.

Mitra Chandra, aſtoniſhed at what he had heard, heſitated for ſome time, till having viewed the Prince more cloſely, he knew him, although he was much altered by the diſtreſſes which he had undergone. He returned the embrace of his old maſter with pure affection,

and fell at his feet, overjoyed at having the good fortune again to meet him.

Cámarúpa having diſmiſſed the reſt of the aſſembly, requeſted his friend to inform him by what accident he had eſcaped periſhing by ſea; upon which Mitra Chandra immediately began the following relation.

The Adventures of Mitra Chandra, *Son of the Vizier, and firſt Companion to Prince* Cámarúpa.

AS ſoon (my dear Prince) as I had ſeparated from you on the broken

broken plank, I reſigned myſelf up to the moſt piercing grief, giving over every hope of again beholding my honoured maſter, as well as of preſerving my own exiſtence. Having prepared myſelf for death, on a ſudden a violent wind aroſe, which expoſed me for a long time to the fury of the elements. At laſt a tremendous wave waſhing over me, I was removed from my plank, and committed entirely to the ocean. After ſwimming ſome time, my feet ſtruck againſt ſomething which I conceived to be a tree. Overjoyed at this unexpected good fortune, I got upon it, and by ſome means

other hoped I might poſſibly gain the land, which was then in ſight; but, alas! I had not been long in this ſituation, when the tree began to move under me, and I perceived that my temporary relief was only the back of an enormous whale. It pleaſed Providence, however, that what I deemed certain deſtruction, ſhould prove my fortunate deliverance; for the whale moving with great velocity, made directly for the ſhore, where having arrived, I threw myſelf off his back on the beach. Overcome with fatigue, I reclined upon the welcome turf; and immediately began to pay my adorations to the Supreme

preme Being for my miraculous escape. "By means of the Al-"mighty," I exclaimed, "the "whale in the ocean becomes a "ship, for the preservation of mor-"tals! By the same goodness, the "tiger of the desert is converted "into a useful horse, for the ser-"vice of man!"

I now directed my course in search of a dwelling, but had not advanced far, before I met with a most hideous Genius, of a deformed aspect, and of a cruel and sanguinary disposition. The demon no sooner perceived me, than he instantly laid violent hands on me, placed

me on his back, and mounting with me into the air, carried me with vaſt rapidity to a country far diſtant, the abode of thoſe accurſed Genii who delight in human blood. Scarcely had I arrived here, before I was accoſted by another of the ſame form, and by him carried to a priſon, where I found a number of men equally miſerable with myſelf, all of whom were deſtined to be devoured. The priſoners no ſooner fixed their eyes upon me, than they flocked around me, and eagerly deſired to be informed by what means I had fallen into the hands of theſe cruel Genii. My grief was ſo exceſſive that I could make

make no reply to their haſty inquiries, but retired to a corner of the priſon, where I gave myſelf up to deſpair; and not knowing what I did, ſometimes I ſang, at other times I laughed and cried alternately, ſo that my fellow-priſoners began to imagine that I was diſordered in mind. This idea I reſolved to encourage, hoping that by this ſubterfuge I might poſſibly regain my liberty.

One day hearing a moſt unuſual noiſe and lamentation in the priſon, I enquired whence it originated; and was informed that the demons had reſolved to have a

grand

grand feaſt that day, and were determined that two of the priſoners ſhould be ſacrificed in honour of it. One of the malicious Genii immediately entered the priſon, when every one began to croud around him, ſupplicating with prayers and tears a reſpite from their intended doom. I alone of the whole aſſembly appeared totally indifferent. The Genius perceiving this, ordered me to approach, and demanded to know the reaſon why, when others were ſo anxious to preſerve their lives, I ſhould appear ſo calm. I immediately made anſwer, That my heart was over-

whelmed

whelmed by the diſtreſs and adverſity which I had undergone, and that death was to me far more welcome than life; I therefore intreated him inſtantly to diſpatch me. The Demon, ſurpriſed at my reply, and curious to know the particulars of my adventures, immediately ordered me to be carried to his own habitation; upon which I was inſtantly ſeparated from my companions. At night, when he returned home, he commanded me to be brought before him, queſtioned me concerning the misfortunes that I had ſuffered, and deſired me to relate the whole ſeries of my adventures without reſerve.

I immediately obeyed, and proceeded to inform him of all the various ſituations through which I had paſſed ſince I had attached myſelf to his ſervice, until the day that I fell into his power, and concluded with earneſtly intreating that he would grant me the laſt favour I had to requeſt, that of a ſpeedy and welcome death, which could be my only relief from miſery.

My ſtory ſtruck the Genius with compaſſion. Bidding me be of good cheer, he aſſured me that I ſhould be conveyed again amongſt mortals; and that he would, moreover, diſtinguiſh me, by a particular

mark

mark of his favour and friendſhip. Saying this, he plucked a few hairs from off his body, and gave them into my hand; telling me, that whenever any misfortune or diſtreſs ſhould fall upon me, to put one of thoſe hairs into the fire, when I ſhould find him come immediately, and render me every aſſiſtance in his power.

At this inſtance of unexpected good fortune I was overjoyed, and returned thanks to him for it. He then ordered a Genius who was near him, to take me into his charge, and convey me to ſome place that was inhabited by mor-

tals. I was immediately lifted up into the air, and in a very ſhort time tranſported to an iſland, where the Genius quitted me, deſiring me to ſeek my fortune in the beſt manner that I was able. The Genius had no ſooner left me, than I returned thanks to the Supreme Being for my deliverance, and walked towards the ſea-ſide, in order anxiouſly to wait the approach of ſome ſhip, which I indulged the pleaſing hope of every moment beholding. In the midſt of this anxiety, the remembrance of my misfortunes, and my abſence from you, added to my afflictions. For ſome time I remained melancholy,

choly, musing on the shore, when, to my inexpressible joy, my longing eyes were blessed with the prospect of a vessel at a considerable distance. I made signals, and those were fortunately perceived and understood by the sailors on board. The captain instantly dispatched a boat to the shore, which conveyed me on board the vessel.

With an exulting heart I now proceeded on the voyage; but fate had not yet terminated my misfortunes. In the evening a terrible storm arose, when all the fair prospects which I had formed,

ed, were at once blaſted in the bud, and nothing but extreme danger preſented itſelf to my view. The ſailors, who are ever prone to ſuperſtition, broke forth into murmurings and complaints againſt me, alleging that I had been the cauſe of the ſtorm, and that they were to be puniſhed for ſome crime which I had committed. After conſulting together, they at laſt propoſed to throw me over-board, and hoped by that means to appeaſe the elements. Before they had time, however, to execute their cruel intentions, a tremendous wave broke over the ſhip, which inſtantly ſunk her, and every

ſoul

ſoul on board except myſelf periſhed. By good fortune I got hold of a piece of broken plank, and ſupporting myſelf on it for ſome time, it pleaſed Providence to abate the tempeſt, when the plank on which I was preſerved being driven towards the land, to my great joy I ſafely reached the beach.

I now perceived that I had been caſt on a very pleaſant iſland, and poured forth my grateful thanks to the Supreme Being, for having once more effected my preſervation. I dried my clothes in the ſun, and ſet forwards in ſearch of a dwelling. Wandering

about, I perceived an old man at the foot of a tree. On ſeeing me, he aroſe, and courteouſly invited me to his houſe, to which he told me I ſhould be heartily welcome; only that in return he hoped I would inform him of the manner in which I had got to that iſland. After a plentiful repaſt, at night I retired to reſt on a bed which he had prepared for me; but think of my ſurprize, when on awaking in the morning, I found the old wretch's feet clung faſt round my neck, violently ſqueezing me. His legs reſembled ſupple leather. I ſoon underſtood that I had fallen into the hands of that deteſted race, who make it their

ſtudy

ſtudy to enſnare unwary ſtrangers. Suffice it to ſay, my dear maſter! that I ſuffered this cruel treatment, until Heaven ſent you to relieve me and my other companions, in the manner which you have ſo happily effected.

When Mitra Chandra had finiſhed his ſtory, Cámarúpa tenderly embraced him, and theſe two friends reſolved in future never again to ſeparate. After a few days they began their journey towards Serendib, and travelled ſome time without meeting any thing remarkable in their way. One day arriving at the foot of a ſteep mountain, they

ſtopped to refreſh themſelves near a pleaſant rivulet, which ran gently winding along. While they were enjoying a repaſt after the fatigues of the journey, the ſound of an human voice ſuddenly ſtruck their ears. On this they haſtily aroſe and looked around, but could perceive nothing for ſome time; at laſt they eſpied, perched on a tree near them, a bird of the ſize of a parrot, of a moſt brilliant and beautiful plumage, which was warbling forth the moſt enchanting notes. The bird no ſooner perceived us, than leaving the tree, it flew towards Cámarúpa, and lighted upon his ſhoulder. The Prince,

pleaſed

pleaſed with the attention of the bird, took it on his hand, and thus addreſſed it: "Pretty bird," ſays he, "wherefore do you ſhew "kindneſs and affection to me, "who am ſorely galled by the ar-"rows of misfortune; and why "do you thus pour forth ſuch "plaintive and eloquent warb-"lings?" The bird immediately anſwered Cámarúpa in the following ſtyle: "O young man! having "hitherto experienced the adver-"ſities of fate, and drank deep of "the bitter cup of misfortune, it "behoves you to be of good cheer, "and not to ſuffer the ſmalleſt di-"minution of your confidence in

"the Divine wiſdom, or leſſen
"your reliance on the decrees of
"Providence; but truſt that by
"the favour of Heaven you will
"yet ſucceed in the accompliſh-
"ment of your wiſhes; place
"therefore your confidence in the
"Almighty, and your night of
"grief and anxiety will at length
"be changed to the bright dawn
"of happineſs and proſperity."

The Prince and his companion were loſt in aſtoniſhment at the bird's diſcourſe, and while they were muſing on the novelty of the circumſtance, on a ſudden they perceived an aged man approach-

ing

ing them, of a devout and pious aſpect, and one who ſeemed to have forſaken the pleaſures and allurements of the world for the more ſolid ſatisfaction of devoting the remainder of his days to ſolitude, and the adoration of the Deity. This Dervife had a ſmall cottage on the ſide of the above mentioned rivulet, and was now come forth to repleniſh his veſſel from the ſtream. Perceiving two men ſitting down on the bank, he drew towards them, and after accoſting them with a courteous ſalutation, inquired the reaſon of their viſiting this ſolitary place. Cámarúpa told him, that they were

two unfortunate travellers, who had rested there only a ſhort time, in order to refreſh themſelves after their fatigue, and that they intended to purſue their journey early in the morning. The aged Dervife informed them, that the place in which they were was totally uninhabited, for excepting himſelf, he knew no other inhabitant; but if they would honour his humble cottage with their preſence for that night, they ſhould be welcome to partake of his frugal fare. The travellers thankfully accepted his friendly offer, and the Dervife having deſired them to tarry a little, left them in order to gather ſome fruits for their repaſt.

During

During the abſence of the Dervife, Cámarúpa, looking towards the parrot, perceived him pecking with his bill at a ſmall ſtring of red ſilk, which was tied to his foot, endeavouring to ſever it. Willing to aſſiſt him, the Prince gently laid hold of his leg, and liberated the bird from his inconvenience. The ſtring was no ſooner diſſevered, than the parrot inſtantly aſſumed the form of a man, and fell at the feet of Cámarúpa and Mitra Chandra, telling them that he was their old friend and companion, Budea Chaund Pundit. Aſtoniſhed at this phenomenon, the Prince and his

his companion returned thanks to Heaven for this pleaſing and unexpected occurrence, and earneſtly deſired to be informed by what miraculous means Budea Chaund had been transformed into a bird; upon which he began to recite his adventures, as follows.

The Adventures of Budea Chaund Pundit, *ſecond Companion of* Rajah Cámarúpa.

WHEN it had pleaſed Providence, my dear friend and maſter, to tear aſunder

asunder our vessel, and leave us to the mercy of the waves, I fortunately seized upon a broken plank, on which I fixed and bound myself fast. In this uncomfortable situation, entirely the sport of the angry elements, I was tossed about for the space of three days. Resigned to the will of Heaven, on the third day the plank on which I sat was driven to land, and I once more found myself relieved from the horrors of death.

As soon as I reached the shore, I sunk down from extreme weakness, faint with hunger and thirst, and for some time was unable to proceed.

ceed. When I had refreſhed, I purſued my journey, and ſoon perceived an incloſed building. The door being open I entered, when I found myſelf in a pleaſant garden, which abounded with fruit-trees and delicious ſtreams of water. In the middle of this garden I diſcovered a ſummer-houſe, of exquiſite beauty and elegance; thither I directed my way, and perceived this pleaſing retreat to be furniſhed with the moſt coſtly carpets, and on every ſide adorned with a profuſion of riches. In the center of the apartment was fixed a golden throne, on which were placed

a va-

a variety of handſome garments. Near the throne a table was laid out, with delicate meats and fruits of every kind. As I had not taſted food for a long ſpace, the pungent ſmell of the victuals augmented my appetite; and I reſolved, whatever might be the conſequence, to appeaſe the violence of my hunger. Having returned thanks to God, I ſat down, and made a plenteous and comfortable repaſt; not a little anxious of knowing to whom this noble place could belong, and why it had no inhabitants. At one time I ſuppoſed myſelf to be in a dream, at ano-

ther I suſpected the whole to be the effect of enchantment.

Having ſatisfied my hunger, I fell aſleep. When I awaked, I perceived an old woman near me, of a moſt hideous and diſguſtful aſpect. Gradually approaching toward me, ſhe ſeated herſelf by my ſide, and after endeavouring to allure and ſeduce me with amorous glances, demanded to know by what good fortune I had arrived at her enchanting palace, of which, ſhe ſaid, ſhe had determined that I ſhould be the ſole maſter, provided that I would regard her with

an

an affection equal to that which ſhe had for me. Struck with horror at this addreſs, I ſoon diſcovered that I had fallen into the hands of a ſorcereſs, from whom I could have no chance of eſcaping but by complying with her deſires; I therefore made a virtue of neceſſity, and with an aching heart returned her unnatural advances.

After ſome days the old hag informed me, that ſhe muſt go and pay a viſit to her father and mother, who lived at ſome diſtance from the iſland; and, in order to prevent me from making my eſcape, ſhe put this ſtring of red ſilk round my

my leg, when I was inſtantly tranſformed into the figure of a bird. She then informed me, that whenever I could looſe the ſtring, I ſhould re-aſſume my natural ſhape. This being done, ſhe took me on her hand, and carrying me through the air, ſpeedily conducted me to the palace of her father and mother, who were two of the malicious Genii.

Thoſe cruel demons had, by power of their magic art, erected a moſt ſuperb palace, every part of which ſhone with gold and ſilver. The walls were encruſted with a profuſion of emeralds, diamonds,

monds, and other precious ſtones; and the pavement of the court-yard was of beaten gold. The male Genius ſat on a throne by himſelf, and beneath him was placed the Queen; who was, if poſſible, more deformed and ugly than her daughter. All around were other Genii in attendance, of ſuch horrible aſpects that my heart ſhuddered at beholding them. My conductreſs perceiving my fear, deſired me to forbear; for that if her parents ſhould know that I were a mortal, I would certainly be devoured by them. Judge, my Prince, how dreadful was my ſituation. The accurſed hag ap-

proached her parents, made her salutations, which they returned with much joy, and particularly enquired the reason of her long absence. Perceiving me on her hand, they desired to know whence she had obtained so beautiful a bird. The enchantress in reply said, she had taken me in the chace, and without further mention delivered me into the hands of one of her attendants, in order that she might partake of a repast with her father and mother. The servant by some means or other became neglectful of me, which I perceiving, took the opportunity, and lifting myself up into the air, flew

flew away with incredible ſwiftneſs from this infernal aſſembly. I continued my flight for ſeveral days ſucceſſively, always reſting at night upon a tree; till at length my happy fortune brought me to this ſpot, where I beheld my ever dear prince and maſter, who has thus reſtored me to liberty.

WHEN Budea Chaund had finiſhed his ſtory, they all three united in a kind embrace, ſhedding a flood of tears, and congratulating each other on their wonderful ad-

ventures. In the midſt of thoſe careſſes, the aged Derviſe returned. He was very much ſurpriſed to find three men together, inſtead of two, which he had left behind him. He immediately addreſſed himſelf to Cámarúpa, and deſired to be informed who was the third perſon. The Prince replied, The perſon you ſee before you, is the ſame bird you beheld on my wriſt when you departed. The Derviſe, much aſtoniſhed at this reply, requeſted Cámarúpa to relate the cauſe of ſo extraordinary a metamorphoſis; upon which the courteous youth thus began:

" Know,

"Know, O holy Dervise! that "I am the only son of Rajah "Peti, sovereign of the kingdom "Oude. My father for a long "time remained without offspring, "until an holy man arriving from "a distant country, at his com- "mand offered up prayers to the "Deity, and the Rajah at length "obtained the accomplishment of "his wishes; so that my mother, "Ranna Rúpa Swarúpa, was de- "livered of me. Unfortunate as "I have been from the hour of "my nativity, and overwhelmed "by the storms of adverse fate, "would to Heaven that Dervise

 "had

"had not been ſucceſsful in his "prayers!"

When the Derviſe heard this relation, he immediately fell upon the neck of the young Prince, and tenderly embracing him ſaid, "Moſt dear youth! in me behold "the ſelf-ſame Derviſe, by whoſe "prayers, thanks be to the Al-"mighty, you were produced; be "of good cheer, and reſerve your-"ſelf for better fortune; for be "aſſured you will at laſt obtain "the utmoſt deſires of your heart."

Cámarúpa, ſurpriſed at this diſcovery, joyfully returned the careſſes

reſſes of the Derviſe with equal affection, and related the adventures of Mitra Chandra, his companion, as alſo the manner in which Budea Chaund had ſo auſpiciouſly joined them. Upon which they all returned thanks to the Deity, for having brought them once more together.

The three friends having remained ſome time with the Derviſe, they determined to take their leave. Gyan Achárya, at parting, preſented to the Prince, as a remembrance of his eſteem, a moſt exquiſite curioſity; it is called in

the Indian language Sungi Parus; being a ſtone of ſo rare a property, that whenever it comes in contact with iron, it turns that metal into gold. Cámarúpa received the preſent with gratitude; and Mitra Chandra and Budea Chaund delivered up their rarities to the Prince; namely, the red ſilk ſtring, and the hairs from the Demon's body.

Taking an affectionate leave of the Derviſe, they proceeded on their journey; and after ſome days travelling, arrived at Dwárakà. This is a celebrated place of worſhip belonging

longing to the Hindoos, to which vaſt numbers of pilgrims annually reſort, in order to perform their ablutions. Here Cámarúpa and his companions determined to remain, until they could gain ſome intelligence reſpecting the Prince's miſtreſs, the lovely Cámalátà, or of the reſt of his long loſt friends.

The ſtory now leaving Cámarúpa and the others at Dwárakà, returns to the adventures and ſituation of Dhanwantari Tubeel, one of the remaining companions, who had been ſhipwrecked.

The

The Adventures of Dhanwantari Tubeel, *the Physician, and third Companion of* Rajah Cámarúpa.

WHEN the ſhip divided, Dhanwantari, equally fortunate with his companions, by chance got upon a broken plank; by which means he was carried through the water with amazing velocity. In a ſhort time he perceived ſomething black at a diſtance, which fortunately proved to be a ſhip. Dhanwantari, on making ſeveral ſignals, was obſerved by the people on board, who inſtantly ſent out a boat to his relief, which took him up and conveyed him

him to the veſſel, in which he was kindly received.

The owner of the veſſel was a celebrated merchant of the name of Dhunada, who, on the arrival of Dhanwantari, ſent for him into the cabin, and after ordering ſome refreſhments to be brought, enquired by what unfortunate accident he had fallen into his preſent ſituation. Dhanwantari faithfully related the cauſe of his ſhipwreck; on which the merchant aſked his name and profeſſion. Dhanwantari replied, That he was a Brahmin, and by profeſſion a phyſician. The merchant then ſaid, " I have

" an

"an only ſon, an accompliſhed "youth, who is at preſent "afflicted with a violent diſ- "order which no remedy has "hitherto been able to cure; if "by your ſkill and art you ſhould "be able to reſtore him, I ſhall "conſider it as the higheſt obliga- "tion." Dhanwantari replied, that he ſhould have much ſatisfaction in doing ſervice to one to whom he was ſo greatly indebted, and requeſted that he might be conducted to the young man's cabin; where having arrived, he felt the pulſe of his patient, and turning to Dehunada, told him to be of good cheer, for he hoped that, by the

the favour of Providence, in a ſhort time, he ſhould be able to reſtore the health of his ſon. The merchant returned thanks; and very fortunately, by the application of proper remedies, the young man ſoon recovered his health and ſtrength. The happy merchant would have loaded Dhanwantari with preſents; but he modeſtly declined every pecuniary reward, ſaying, That he did not ſtand in need of them, and that what he had done was amply repaid by the merchant's friendſhip. Every one preſent praiſed the diſintereſted diſpoſition of Dhanwantari, who ſoon gained the affection of the whole

crew.

crew. During his continuance in the veſſel, he made it his ſtudy to attend all who were ill, and by his great ſkill happily ſucceeded in their recovery.

Dehunada having become attached to him by the ſtricteſt ties of friendſhip and affection, one day, as they were ſailing along, Dhanwantari aſked the merchant, whither he was bound? He replied, That he had taken in merchandize at Bengal, and was carrying it to Serendib, the place of his birth. On receiving this intelligence, Dhanwantari was overjoyed, hoping to hear ſome tidings of his dear

Prince,

Prince, the Rajah Cámarúpa; although, at the recollection of his loſs, he could not avoid weeping bitterly. The merchant, ſurpriſed at this mark of ſorrow, aſked him why he wept. He anſwered, "I have a dear brother, who "ſome time ago went on a voyage "to that place, and it is long ſince "I have heard any account of "him; for this reaſon I un-"dertook the voyage in which I "was ſhipwrecked."

The merchant bid him be comforted, telling him that the Rajah of the iſland, Rajah Chitra Peti, was his moſt particular friend and

and patron; and added, that on their arrival he ſhould take care to introduce him to the Rajah, who would make every poſſible inquiry concerning his brother. Dhanwantari thanked the merchant for his kindneſs, and in a ſhort time the veſſel arrived at Serendib, when the merchant carried Dhanwantari along with him to his houſe; from which, after a few days refreſhment, they went to the Rajah's palace, to deliver the rarities and merchandiſe which the merchant had brought from Bengal.

When he arrived at the palace, they perceived a vaſt number of

phyſicians ſitting around the Rajah in conſultation. The Prince, perceiving the merchant, ordered him to approach, and greeting him with a hearty welcome home, inſpected his curioſities. While the Rajah was looking at the merchandiſe, Dehunada embraced the opportunity of inquiring of the attendants, the reaſon of this aſſemblage of phyſicians. They told him, that the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü, the only child of the Rajah, had been a long time indiſpoſed, and that every remedy which had been applied to recover her, had been in vain, and ineffectual; that the Rajah, in the utmoſt de-

ſpair, had convened this aſſembly, in order to try what ſucceſs their united ſkill could produce, and that they had ſat many days in conſultation, but had not been able to do any ſervice to the Princeſs.

At this intelligence the merchant advanced towards the Rajah, and after making his obeiſance, informed him that he had brought with him a young phyſician of great experience and exquiſite ſkill in his profeſſion; who, after all other advice had failed, had reſtored his only ſon, who had been at the point of death. He aſſured the Rajah that he was confident,

ſident, were permiſſion to be granted for the young phyſician to attend the Princeſs, that he would, with the aſſiſtance of the Almighty, in all probability reſtore her to health. The King deſired the merchant to bring the young man whom he ſo warmly recommended next morning, and at the ſame time ordered all the other phyſicians to attend. Dehunada returning home, related to Dhanwantari what had paſſed, and bid him prepare to accompany him to the palace in the morning.

The intelligence the merchant gave, immediately recalled to the

 memory

memory of Dhanwantari, the remarkable dream of his ever beloved maſter the Prince Cámarúpa, and from the ſimilarity of circumſtances, he made no doubt but that this was the individual Princeſs Kaann Lettaii, with whom Cámarúpa had become ſo much enamoured, and for whom he had undertaken the diſaſtrous voyage, in which he had ſuffered ſuch innumerable evils. He then told the merchant to be of good cheer, for he was certain that he ſhould ſucceed. Next morning the merchant led Dhanwantari to the palace, when, on their arrival, the Rajah ordered the phyſicians to be aſſembled

to

to examine the ſtranger, and make trial of his ſkill in the art. They obeyed, and reported that he was perfect maſter of the profeſſion; upon which the Rajah commanded Khajah Scrai, the Chief of the Eunuchs, to conduct Dhanwantari to the Haram, that he might viſit the Princeſs, and exert every means in his power to remove her diſorder.

Having arrived at the Haram, Kaum Kullaü, the attendant and beloved friend of the Princeſs, ſeeing Dhanwantari, took him aſide, and told him that her miſtreſs's diſorder was more in her mind than body, and that his phyſic

would be of no avail in the present inſtance. Dhanwantari acknowledged the truth of the obſervation, and returning to the Rajah, told him, that if he would permit him to continue his attendance on the Princeſs, he hoped ſhortly to reſtore her to health. The Rajah being much pleaſed with the freedom and confidence of Dhanwantari, ordered all the other phyſicians to withdraw, and reſigned his daughter entirely to the care and management of the new phyſician.

Mean time intelligence was brought to the Rajah, of a ſtranger having arrived

arrived from the Rajah of Ceylon, with a meſſage for his Majeſty, but that he was ſo extremely ill that he could not come in perſon to deliver it. The Rajah ordered Dhanwantari to attend on the newly arrived ſtranger. He accordingly obeyed, and to his great ſurpriſe immediately diſcerned his old friend and companion, Chitra Mana the painter. Diſmiſſing all the attendants, he approached him, and after embracing him tenderly, bid him look attentively, and ſee if he knew him to be Dhanwantari, his old friend. Chitra Mana fixing his eye upon him, immediately recollected him, when

the two friends embraced each other moſt affectionately.

Chitra Mana being reſtored to health, Dhanwantari requeſted to know on what occaſion the Rajah of Ceylon had ſent him hither, and by what means he had been ſaved from the ſhipwreck; upon which the Painter immediately began the following narrative.

The Adventures of Chitra Mana *the Painter, and fourth Companion to* Rajah Cámarúpa.

WHEN the ſhip divided, by good fortune I got hold of a broken

plank, which I grafped with all my ftrength, and in this fituation was expofed to the fury of the winds and waves, every moment expecting my fate to be determined. To the care of Almighty Providence I refigned myfelf; and the thoughts of my dear Prince and our cruel feparation occurring to my memory, I was filled with the utmoft anxiety and forrow. It pleafed the great Difpofer of events, however, after three days and nights, that the plank on which I fat was driven on fhore by the violence of the waves, and I fafely reached the land, but was fo weak and faint as fcarcely to be able to dif-

disengage myself from the plank. Having however accomplished it, I sat down a short time to rest, till, prompted to go in search of food, I was induced to set out. I had not advanced many paces, when the sight of a quadrangular building attracted my attention. Hither I directed my course, and finding the door open, entered; on which I immediately found myself in a delightful garden abounding with delicious fruit-trees and streams of transparent water. In this abode of luxury and delight, the lofty pine and stately cypress overtopped the more humble shrubs, and afforded an agreeable shade; while the

the roſes, hyacinths, and other flowers blended together, perfumed the air with the moſt refreſhing odours. In the midſt of this garden ſtood an elegant ſummer-houſe, where having liberally refreſhed myſelf, I felt an inclination to ſleep: I then threw myſelf down at the foot of a tall cypreſs adjacent, and enjoyed a very comfortable repoſe. On awaking, I perceived the keeper of the garden ſtanding near me. He immediately aſked my name, and by what means I had got into that ſituation. I related the whole adventure of my ſhipwreck, and concluded

cluded with a requeſt that he would inform me into what place fortune had conducted me, and to whom the garden belonged. The gardener replied, "O young ſtranger! "fate has caſt you upon the iſland "of Seilaun, the country of the "Raja Peti, who at preſent reigns "over us. This is a favourite "garden belonging to that Prince, "where he often reſorts to take "the air, and enjoy the refreſhing "breezes which this delightful "place affords. I am the chief "gardener of the place, and if "you will honour my houſe with "your company, I ſhall eſteem "myſelf happy."

I gladly

I gladly accepted the friendly invitation, and the gardener immediately conducted me to his habitation, which was a neat cottage in the corner of the garden. Having prepared a plenteous repaſt, we paſſed the evening in pleaſing converſation; and next morning the gardener, agreeable to his uſual cuſtom, went forth to attend his flowers and ſhrubs, while I amuſed myſelf by walking about the garden, and repoſing in the ſummer-houſe. Several days thus pleaſantly paſſed over, when, as I had no other amuſement, I exerciſed my ſkill in painting and drawing, in order to relieve my mind.

mind. One day I drew the whole ſtory of my dear Prince Cámarúpa on the door of the ſummer-houſe, from the period of his remarkable dream in the foreſt, until the preſent hour. I had taken care to deſcribe the different friends of the party, all of whom I held in the deareſt remembrance. Having completed the figures in a very maſterly manner, it happened that the Rajah Peti, walking in the garden, perceived on the door of the ſummer-houſe, what I had drawn; and being much taken with it, demanded of the gardener by whom the figures had been executed. The chief gardener, who had

had not before ſeen the painting, was aſtoniſhed, and not knowing what anſwer to give the Rajah, endeavoured to excuſe himſelf, by aſſuring the Prince that no one ever preſumed to enter the garden without his Majeſty's permiſſion, and that the painting muſt have been done at the time the houſe was finiſhed. The Rajah's curioſity increaſing, he became angry, and in a peremptory tone told the chief gardener, that if he did not find out the perſon who had drawn the figures before morning, he ſhould certainly feel the dire effects of his anger.

The

The poor gardener, much alarmed, came to me in the evening, and related the whole ſtory; adding, that as it was utterly impoſſible to find out the perſon in queſtion, he muſt ſuffer the puniſhment of the Rajah's diſpleaſure. I told him to be of good cheer, and not afflict himſelf any longer, for that I was the perſon who had drawn the figures, and ſo he might inform the Rajah in the morning; and to convince him that what I ſaid was the truth, I produced my bruſh and colours. The old man, pleaſed at this intelligence, hugged me to his breaſt, and expreſſed his joy at the accident which had introduced

me

me to his acquaintance; and next morning the head-gardener carried me before the Rajah, representing me to be the perſon who had painted the figures on the wall. The Prince immediately deſired to be informed who I was, and whence I came. In reply, I told him, that I was originally from the province of Oude, in Hindoſtan; that I was by profeſſion a painter; and had acquired ſome ſkill in that art. The Rajah then aſked me, if I could draw his picture; to which having ſignified my ability and eagerneſs to pleaſe him, he ordered me to draw his likeneſs; which I

 pre-

presently did in so masterly a style, that the Prince insisted upon my entering into his service, appointed me an handsome salary, and suitable attendants; and from that time I grew every day more and more in his favour, so that I shared his confidence equally with the first man in his dominions, till my fame was firmly established.

The Rajah one day informed me, that he had long wished to send an ambassador to his friend and ally the King of Serendib, and had prepared many valuable presents for that purpose; but that he had not been able to procure any per-

son

ſon fit for the employment. He therefore requeſted that I would accept the charge; to which I readily conſented, in hopes of hearing ſome tidings of my beloved Prince. Having ordered the neceſſary preparations to be made for my journey, I ſet off immediately. My having been taken ſick on my arrival, has fortunately proved the means of my beholding a dear and long loſt friend. Now, having related my ſtory, I requeſt that you will inform me by what means you came hither, and what has happened to you ſince our diſaſtrous ſhipwreck.

Dhanwantari then related the whole of his adventures from the

 time

time they had parted; and informed him, that they had come to Serendib on purpofe to gain fome tidings of their common friend the Prince, but hitherto had not been able to obtain the fmalleft difcovery. He added, the Rajah is my friend, and has appointed me Phyfician to his only daughter, the Princefs Kaann Lettaü, for whofe fake we had all undertaken this dangerous expedition. Chitra Mana immediately defired him to obtain, by every means in his power, the fecret of the Princefs's paffion; for he had heard that fhe had fallen in love with a beautiful young Prince in a dream, and had

had no doubt but it was their own maſter.

They agreed to embrace the firſt opportunity that offered, and if that proved unſucceſsful, to go once more in ſearch of Cámarúpa. Accordingly the next time Dhanwantari waited on the Princeſs, he told her confidant Kaum Kullaü, that he wiſhed for a private conference with the Princeſs, having ſomething of a very important nature to communicate. The attendant accordingly informed her miſtreſs of the Phyſician's requeſt, who conſented; and ordered that all in waiting, excepting

ing Kaum Kullaü, ſhould depart. When they had withdrawn, Dhanwantari told the Princeſs, that he had long conſidered her diſorder, and was convinced that it was owing more to ſome ſecret cauſe that rankled in her mind, than to any bodily infirmity, and begged that ſhe would diſcloſe the ſecret to him; adding, that ſhe might depend upon his fidelity in retaining it in his own breaſt. The Princeſs immediately related the whole of her remarkable dream, and of her falling in love with the Prince Camarupa; telling him, that ſhe had had neither peace nor reſt ſince that fatal moment; and concluded

cluded with a requeſt, that as he regarded her life and honour, he would not divulge what ſhe had related. Dhanwantari, after promiſing inviolable ſecrecy, declared to the Princeſs, that he would do every thing in his power to forward her wiſhes in ſearching for Cámarúpa; and with thoſe prepoſſeſſions he left her, and went to Chittra Mana.

The two friends now agreed that Dhanwantari ſhould repair to the Princeſs, and deſire her to divert herſelf with various pleaſures and amuſements for a little time, and that he (Chitra Mana) would

exert every means to forward the businefs which had been undertaken, to the fatisfaction of the Princefs. This being agreed to, Chitra Mana fet to work immediately, and foon produced a picture, on which was reprefented every individual circumftance of Cámarúpa's dream. Having finifhed it in the higheft perfection, he gave it to the Phyfician, and defired that he would prefent it to Kaann Lettaü, and wait until he faw what effect it produced. Dhanwantari accordingly took the picture, and delivered it into the hands of Kaum Kullaü, who prefented it to her miftrefs. When the Princefs caft her

her eyes on the painting, ſhe expreſſed much ſurpriſe and admiration at the performance; and happening on a ſudden to ſee the figure of the Rajah Cámarúpa, ſhe let the picture fall out of her hands, and, with a violent ſhriek, dropt lifeleſs to the ground. The attendant, much affected at this unexpected accident, laid her on a couch, and having plentifully bedewed her face with ottah of roſes, ſhe at length recovered. The Princeſs heaved a deep ſigh, and taking away the picture, retired, to indulge and conſole herſelf with the ſight of what ſhe valued as more

more dear than all ſhe poſſeſſed in the world.

Kaum Kullaü, in the mean time, went and informed her friends Dhanwantari and Chitra Mana with what had paſſed; and deſcribed the aſtoniſhment of the Princeſs at the ſight of the picture. Upon this, Chitra Mana ſet to work on another performance, on which he deſcribed the affliction of Cámarúpa on his awaking from his dream, and his ſubſequent diſtraction of mind, together with the portraits of his ſix companions. This alſo Dhanwantari delivered to the

the Princeſs, who expreſſed the greateſt aſtoniſhment at ſeeing the Phyſician's portrait among the others; and requeſted of him, as he had contributed ſo much to relieve the diſtreſs and agitation of her mind, that he would daily bring ſome performance of this exquiſite maſter of the art.

Dhanwantari, well pleaſed at the requeſt, informed his friend; and he in conſequence began a third picture, on which he delineated Cáma-rúpa and his companions embarking on board the ſhip; the ſtorm which aroſe, and the ſhipwreck which followed; he alſo drew the

the Rajah and Mitra Chandra upon a broken raft. This piece Dhanwantari likewiſe immediatēly carried to the Princeſs, who, when ſhe beheld this third picture, was greatly ſurpriſed; and rightly conceiving that this was more than a fictitious painting, called her friend Kaum Kullaü to her in private, and deſired her to go to the Phyſician and obtain information from him of the meaning of this laſt picture; adding, that ſhe had obſerved his own portrait among the others, and concluded by deſiring that Dhanwantari would bring the Painter along with him at their next interview.

The

The confidant accordingly went to Dhanwantari, and commanded him and his friend the Painter immediately to come before the Princeſs. They obeying, on their arrival Kaum Lettaü deſired Dhanwantari to inform her of the whole affair without the leaſt reſerve. He immediately began to relate to her every circumſtance he knew concerning the fate of the Prince Cámarúpa, from his firſt falling in love until the period of their ſeparation on the broken raft. The Princeſs returned him her ſincereſt thanks, and they all agreed amongſt themſelves, that Dhanwantari ſhould remain at Serendib,

as

as an attendant upon the Princeſs, that his friends ſhould depart in ſearch of Cámarúpa, and that on gaining any tidings of him they ſhould inſtantly return, and make her acquainted with it; at the ſame time ſhe drew a ring from her finger, and gave it to Chitra Mana, telling him, that if he was ſo fortunate as to meet with Cámarúpa, he might preſent it to him as a mark of her affection. She then bid him farewell, wiſhing him ſucceſs in his undertaking; and ſhortly after acquainted her father, that by the great ſkill of the phyſician Dhanwantari ſhe found herſelf perfectly reſtored to health. The

Rajah at this information was ſilled with joy, and ordered a large ſum to be diſtributed to the poor and holy men; he likewiſe gave Dhanwantari ſeveral magnificent preſents, and the whole court and city were ordered to make public rejoicings on the occaſion.

Mean time Chitra Mana, having requeſted permiſſion of the Rajah to depart, ordered a letter to be written in anſwer to that which he had received from Rajah Gaja Peti, and at the ſame time delivered to him ſeveral rare and valuable preſents.

Chitra Mana departed, and arriving at Ceylon, he delivered the presents with the anſwer to the Prince; after which he took his leave, and putting on the habit of a Jogee, he ſet forth in ſearch of his friend the Prince Cámarúpa. Having travelled many days, without gaining any tidings of him, he became quite hopeleſs, and deſpaired of ever accompliſhing the object which he had ſo earneſtly in view.

Chance one day brought him to Dwáraká, the celebrated place before mentioned, at the time when the pilgrims were actually aſſembled

bled to perform their ablutions. Not finding Cámarúpa as he expected, he became despondent, and determined to put an end to his existence, judging life to be of no value without the company of his beloved Prince.

To effect his purpose, he walked to the side of the river, and having offered up his prayers for the preservation of Cámarúpa, was on the point of throwing himself into the water, when he felt somebody seize hold of him by the hair. Turning suddenly round, he requested the stranger to permit him to destroy himself, as

 death

death to him was far preferable to life at that moment. The ſtranger reproaching him for his deſpair, begged to know what had occaſioned his extreme diſtreſs. "O, man of benevolence! "(replied he) my name is Chitra "Mana. I am by profeſſion a "painter, and the friend of Rajah "Cámarúpa, ſon of the ſovereign "of Oude." Mitra Chandra then bid him look at him, and aſked whether his misfortunes had made him forget an old friend and companion. Chitra Mana viewing the other narrowly, ſoon recalled his features to memory. The two friends then mutually embraced

each other, in the moſt affectionate and cordial manner.

Chitra Mana having eagerly aſked him tidings of the Prince Cámarúpa, he replied with a joyful countenance, that he had by great good fortune found the young Prince, who was now at Dwárakà, whither he had reſorted to perform the neceſſary ablutions; and concluded by deſiring him to attend the Prince inſtantly. The two friends then proceeded on their way, rejoicing at the happy accident which had brought them together.

On their arrival, Cámarúpa perceiving his old friend Chitra Mana, embraced him with extreme joy, bid him welcome, and desired him to relate all that he had seen and met with. Then taking the ring of the Princess Kaann Lettaü out of his pocket, he placed it on the tip of his finger, and desired that the Prince would first look upon it, and that he should afterwards relate his adventures. Cámarúpa, on beholding the well-known name of his dear Princess inscribed on the ring, heaved a deep sigh from the bottom of his breast, and fell lifeless on the bosom of his newly recovered friend. Budea Chund hastily

haftily demanded what he had done, and wherefore he thus afflicted their beloved mafter. Chitra Mana replied, that the ring which he had juft difplayed was the caufe of the Prince's illnefs; it belonged to the Rana Kaum Lettaü, and he had brought it from her as a token of affection for Cámarúpa. The two friends then raifed up the Prince, who foon recovering from his agitation, once more took the ring, and preffing it to his lips, kiffed it moft fervently, then raifing it to his eyes, let fall a fhower of tears on this affectionate and foothing token of his miftrefs's paffion. He then addreffed the Painter, and

begged that he would quickly relate by what extraordinary means he had become poſſeſſed of this invaluable treaſure. Chitra Mana related to the Prince the whole of the Princeſs's ſtory, her ſickneſs, his diſcovering her paſſion, and finally her giving him the ring, and commanding him to depart in ſearch of her beloved Prince Cámarúpa.

When Chitra Mana had finiſhed his narration, the Prince thus addreſſed Budea Chund, the Pundit: "Since, O ever dear friend! the "wiſhes of my heart are thus "wonderfully accompliſhed, it be- "hoves me to return thanks in a

"proper

" proper manner for ſo great a bleſſ-
" ing; and I earneſtly requeſt the
" prayers of pious and holy
" men for the reſtoration of the
" health of my dear Princeſs.
" As my means at preſent, however,
" are ſcanty, and I have nothing
" left but the ruby now on my
" arm, it is proper that you ſhould
" take and ſell it to the Rajah
" Pri'tihi Péti, ſovereign of this
" country, and then let the
" amount be given to the holy
" Brahmins for the purpoſes
" which I have expreſſed."

This being agreed to by all preſent, Budea Chund took the ruby,

 and

and going to the Rajah's palace, desired one of the attendants to present the jewel to the Prince as for sale. When the Rajah Pri'tihi Péti cast his eyes upon the ruby, which darted forth a thousand rays from its incomparable brilliancy and lustre, joy sparkled in his eyes; and commanding his own jeweller, by name Mana Chitra, to be called, he put it into his hand, and desired him to name the price of the ruby. Mana Chitra, on viewing the jewel, was astonished; and desired that the person to whom it belonged might be sent for; upon which Budea Chitra stepped forward. Mana Chitra then

asked

aſked him, if he was the owner of the jewel; adding, that he ſuſpected, by its uncommon beauty and immenſe value, that it muſt be the property of ſome potent prince. Budea Chitra replied, that whoever was the owner it did not concern him, but if he choſe to purchaſe it, he might; if not, he begged leave to depart. On being preſſed to name the owner, he ſaid that it belonged to Rajah Raj Petti, the ſovereign of Oude, who had commiſſioned him to ſell it. Mana Chitra replied, "It is not ſo; this "jewel is the property of Kenwur "Cámarúpa, the ſon of the ſove- "reign of Oude; who, at the "birth

" birth of his child, put this ruby " on his arm; and foretold, that at " the time of his son's marriage, " he should bestow it on the Brah- " mins. I am the servant of Cá- " marúpa, and his jeweller, and " have seen this ruby on the arm " of the Prince while an infant." Budea Chitra then demanded his name; to which he replied, My name is Mana Chitra; and then, at the remembrance of his dear master, he burst into a flood of tears. Budea Chitra immediately threw his arms about the neck of Mana Chitra, and bid him look him in the face, and recollect, if possible, his old and faithful friend.

Upon

Upon this, the two friends immediately embraced each other. Mana Chitra then inquired concerning the Prince; and being informed that he was in health and safety, he joyfully and with a loud voice returned thanks to the Deity.

The Rajah Pri'tihi Péti being astonished at this adventure, acquainted Budea Chitra, that he intreated the Prince his master from henceforth to consider himself as his particular guest; and hoped to have the honour of entertaining him in a manner suitable to his rank and dignity. Mana Chitra requested

requefted of the Rajah, that he might firft go and prepare the Prince for this fortunate and unexpected event; to which the Rajah willingly confented, adding that he could not himfelf refrain from following him in a fhort time.

The two friends departed together. As they approached the Prince, who was fitting in converfation with Mana Chitra, the latter perceiving two people, conjectured that probably Budea Chitra had been feized as a robber, and that the Prince himfelf was coming to inquire concerning the fact. But he was quickly unde-

 ceived;

ceived; for Manickya Chandra, on his nearer approach, fell at the feet of the Prince Cámarúpa, and ſhedding abundance of tears, told him that he was his faithful ſervant and friend Manickya Chandra, the Jeweller. The Prince immediately recognized the features of his long-loſt companion, and raiſing him up embraced him in the tendereſt manner; then ſeating himſelf by his ſide, bid him recount all the circumſtances of his life ſince their diſaſtrous ſeparation, and inform him by what means this happy meeting had been effected. Manickya Chandra, after recollecting himſelf a little, began

in

in the following manner to comply with the requeſt of his beloved friend and maſter.

The Adventures of Manickya Chandra, *the Jeweller, and Fifth Companion of* Rajah Cámarúpa.

AS ſoon as the ſhip divided, the favour of Providence threw in my way a broken plank, of which I fortunately laid hold, and reſigned myſelf to the mercy of the winds and waves. During three days I remained in this dreadful ſituation,

ſituation, when my eyes were at length bleſſed with a diſtant view of the ſhore, which I uſed every exertion to reach, but from extreme laſſitude and fatigue was unable to effect.

While I continued in this ſtate, a lion of a moſt tremendous ſize and form came down to the beach, and endeavoured to ſeize and tear me from the plank, but the water being very deep, he durſt not venture into the ſea. My agony during this period was greater than I can poſſibly expreſs; but at laſt it pleaſed the Almighty to ſend to my relief a monſtrous

whale,

whale, which bounding forth from amidſt the waves of the ocean, made directly againſt the lion. The two monſters immediately began a fierce and terrible encounter; when, after a furious conflict, the whale got the better of the lion, and finally devoured him. He then returned into the ſea and diſappeared.

Being thus delivered from what I had deemed ſure and inevitable deſtruction, I at length crawled upon the beach, and after returning thanks to Heaven for my miraculous preſervation, laid myſelf down to enjoy a comfortable

repoſe.

repofe. When I awaked, I wandered about in fearch of an habitation; and after fome time arrived at a very pleafant valley, where there was abundance of refrefhing water and various forts of fruit-trees. Determined to remain in this pleafant place, I fat down to partake of a repaft which the neighbouring trees had afforded me.

When night began to approach, I perceived a light at a diftance, toward which I directed my fteps with all poffible fpeed; and on my arrival perceived that a caravan of merchants had taken their abode

here for the night. Highly rejoiced at this circumſtance, I inquired of one of the people for the maſter of the caravan, to whom they immediately conducted me. He received me with courteſy, and inquiring after my ſtory, ordered that I ſhould be taken care of. He then permitted me to attach myſelf to his caravan; but, alas! I was no ſooner freed from one misfortune, than another overtook me; for before midnight the caravan was ſurrounded by a party of daring robbers, who made the attack with ſuch rage and vigour that they ſoon put our people to flight, killing ſeveral and making pri-

prifoners of the reft. Among the latter was your unfortunate flave, who was inftantly bound. The thieves then having divided their booty, immediately fet forwards for their own habitation, which was at a place called Jaggut. Being arrived there, the chief of the robbers, Jubar Sing, ordered all the prifoners to be brought forth and put to death. My turn came next, and the cruel executioner was on the point of performing his office, when the youngeft fon of the Chief, who was then ftanding by, made a fign for him to defift; and going up to his father, earneftly begged that my life might be fpared

 for

for his ſake. This compaſſionate and noble youth, whoſe generous ſoul ever obeyed the dictates of mercy and humanity, was named Behauder Sing. Having obtained his father's conſent, he took me by the hand, and led me to his own houſe, where, having ſet before me a plentiful banquet, he deſired me to relate my adventures, and inform him by what extraordinary means I had fallen into ſuch an unfortunate ſituation; upon which I related all that had happened to me.

This excellent young man, after many favours conferred upon me,

delivered me into the care of ſome of his own people, who brought me to Dwáraká ; where acknowledging myſelf to be a jeweller by profeſſion, I ſoon acquired reputation, and was employed in the ſervice of Rajah Pri'tihi Péti. This Prince took ſo much delight in the efforts of my ſkill, that he not only allowed me an handſome ſalary with ſuitable attendants, but I became his chief favourite. Here I have remained ever ſince, until the period I ſaw my friend Budea Chaund, who came hither for the purpoſe of ſelling my dear Prince's ruby. Thanks be to God who hath thus reſtored to me my

friend and maſter in ſo auſpicious a manner.

When Manickya Chandra had ended his relation, the Prince embraced him tenderly, and related his own adventures. While they were thus in cloſe diſcourſe, a confuſed noiſe of cymbals and warlike inſtruments aſſailed their ears, and preſently after it was known that the Rajah was approaching. Cámarúpa upon this requeſted of Manickya Chandra to go to the King, and inform him where he was ſeated in expectation of his arrival. The jeweller accordingly departed, and in a ſhort time the Rajah appeared;

peared; who, descending from his elephant, advanced towards the Prince. Cámarúpa rose up to meet him, when the two Princes accosted each other with the usual salutations. Rajah Pri'tihi Péti requested the Prince to honour him with his company at the palace, adding at the same time, that this would be a favour he should ever remember with gratitude and satisfaction. The Prince received this friendly and courteous invitation with proper acknowledgments; and placing him upon his own elephant, they returned together to his palace, where orders were given for a magnificent ban-

quet to be prepared, at which they all ſat down. Here youthful cup-bearers, whoſe checks reſembled the full moon in ſplendor, ſerved up wine of the firſt quality in cups of pure gold, and the fairy forms of elegant dancers beat time in pleaſing cadence to the melody of the harp, the lute, and the dulcimer.

While they were thus enjoying the banquet, the diſcourſe happening to turn upon the ſcience of muſic, Rajah Pri'tihi Péti obſerved that it was a long time ſince he had ſeen any one who was maſter of that noble art. At this the Prince

Prince Cámarúpa bringing to his recollection his old friend and companion Calávat Rasa Ranga, from whom he had been so unfortunately parted, breathed a secret wish that he were now present, and at the same time heaved a deep sigh at the idea of his loss. Hearing this, the Visier of the Rajah thus addressed him: "Most august "Sovereign! there is lately ar-"rived in this city a young "stranger, who is possessed of such "astonishing powers in music, as "perhaps were never before heard "of, and he is now at the habita-"tion of your servant." The Rajah ordered his Visier to bring the

the ſtranger to the aſſembly, which was accordingly done; and after a ſhort time the young man prepared to give a ſpecimen of his abilities in the art. This taſk he executed in ſo maſterly a manner, and in ſuch an exquiſite ſtyle, that all preſent were loſt in wonder and delight; whilſt thoſe who had been performing before, overcome by the powers of the young ſtranger, bent their heads in ſilence, and were ſtruck with envy at his ſuperior abilities. As ſoon as he had finiſhed his performance, the Rajah turning to his Viſier, aſked him by what means he became poſſeſſed of ſo invaluable a treaſure? The Viſier replied,

replied, "that he had been three
"days at the houſe of Rúpa Swa-
"rúpa, one of his highneſs's re-
"lations, who had informed him
"of his extraordinary gueſt,
"which had induced him to men-
"tion him when the diſcourſe
"firſt turned upon muſic."

The Prince Cámarúpa, from the firſt appearance of the ſtranger, had conceived an extraordinary emotion; and when he heard him deliver thoſe harmonious and well-known notes which had ſo often contributed to ſooth the anguiſh of his ſoul, he immediately knew the ſtrange performer to be his long-

long-loſt and dear friend the Muſician Calávat Raſa Ranga. He therefore determined to make himſelf known as ſoon as the banquet ſhould be ended ; and accordingly, when they were about to depart, the Prince requeſted the Rajah to permit the newly-arrived Muſician to viſit him at his own apartments. The Rajah conſenting, as ſoon as they had all retired, Calávat Raſa Ranga went to the chamber of Rajah Cámarúpa. On his arrival, the Prince demanded of him, whether he retained in his memory the name of Cámarúpa ? The Muſician, at the mention of the name, calling to remembrance his revered and

and long-loſt Prince, uttered a deep ſigh, and immediately ſhed a torrent of tears. In order to comfort him, Cámarúpa bid him look earneſtly, and endeavour to find out in him the perſon for whom he ſo anxiouſly ſought. Calávat Raſa Ranga, viewing the Prince more narrowly, preſently recalled the features of Cámarúpa to his mind, and falling at the feet of his maſter, embraced his knees with the ſinceſt tokens of reſpect and joy. The Prince being ſenſibly affected on the occaſion, raiſed him from the ground, and tenderly embracing him, deſired that he would inform him, by what means he had been

pre-

preſerved from periſhing in the ocean, and how he had arrived in that city. Raſa Ranga, after embracing the remainder of his friends, who had by this time arrived in the Prince's chamber, and having paſſed through the uſual congratulations, began the following narrative:

The Adventures of Calávat Raſa Ranga, *the Muſician, and Sixth Companion of* Rajah Cámarúpa.

AT the time the ſhip went down, I by chance got hold of a broken plank, upon which I committed

mitted myſelf to the mercy of the winds and waves. Three days and nights I remained in this miſerable ſituation, when, on the fourth day, it pleaſed Divine Providence to throw on ſhore the plank on which I was ſeated. With much difficulty I reached the land, and being quite exhauſted with watching, hunger, and fatigue, fainted away. On recovering, I perceived near me ſome trees loaded with fruit, with which I gladly appeaſed my hunger; but as evening approached, hearing the roaring of wild beaſts on every ſide, I betook myſelf to a tree, to the top of which I climbed, in order to paſs the night.

I had

I had not been long in my new ſituation, when a young man of a moſt engaging form made his appearance. He was dreſſed very magnificently; in his hand he held a bow, upon his ſhoulder was hung a quiver full of arrows, and a ſcymitar was ſuſpended by his ſide. He had come hither on foot, determined to take up his abode in the ſame tree, to avoid the wild beaſts, which were howling moſt dreadfully all round him. Having ſeated himſelf a little below me, he raiſed his eyes toward the top of the tree, and perceiving a ſtrange perſon, conceived that it might poſſibly be one of thoſe evil genii inimical to

man-

mankind, who wander about the world during the night. Impreſſed with the idea, he fitted an arrow to his bow, and was juſt on the point of diſcharging it, when I called out to him in a ſuppliant manner, and requeſted that he would ſpare an unfortunate traveller, whom the terrors of the night, and the roaring of the wild beaſts, had induced to take up his reſidence in that tree. At this exclamation the young man immediately deſiſted, and aſked me whence I came, and what had brought me into that unfrequented place. I replied, that I had lately ſuffered ſhipwreck; and related all the particulars of my misfortunes.

When I had finiſhed, he bid me take comfort, telling me that he ſhould be my protector, and ſoon conduct me to a place of ſafety.

During this converſation, a lion of a tremendous ſize approached the tree on which we had placed ourſelves, and being impelled by hunger, and the ſcent of human fleſh, ſet up a moſt hideous roar, at the ſame time laſhing the earth with his tail, while his eyes darted flames of fire. In this manner he continued going round the tree, in hopes of finding the means of raiſing himſelf. I became petrified with horror; but my companion

nion ſmiling, bade me not be afraid, but obſerve what he did. Upon this, fitting an arrow to his bow, he drew it from ear to ear with all his ſtrength, and then diſcharging it, hit the lion ſo exactly in the throat, that the monſter fell dead without a ſingle groan. I immediately gave a loud ſhout, and returned thanks to God, and to the noble youth, who had thus preſerved me from inevitable deſtruction.

Soon afterwards the female of the beaſt which had been killed, came in ſearch of her mate, and on her arrival at the tree, ſeeing

him dead, ſhe uttered a loud howl; and inſtantly began to aſcend. I now continued in the greateſt terror at the ſituation of the young man who ſat below me; but with the moſt perfect unconcern he drew his ſcymitar, and at one blow ſevered the lioneſs into two parts, upon which ſhe fell proſtrate and lifeleſs to the ground.

After this miraculous deliverance, I embraced the young man, and returned him thanks for my preſervation a ſecond time. I then requeſted him to inform me by what means he had arrived in ſo deſolate a place, as I could clearly per-

perceive that he had been well educated and nobly born. The illuſtrious ſtranger very obligingly replied, That he had come to hunt in the foreſt, and having purſued a ſtag too eagerly, had been ſeparated from his company, and obliged to paſs the night as I now ſaw; adding, that by day-break he doubted not ſome of his attendants would find him out.

This proved to be the caſe, for when the morning began to appear, we eſpied a company of horſemen approaching. Upon their arrival the young ſtranger deſcended from the tree, and the horſemen

no ſooner ſaw him, than they immediately haſtened to proſtrate themſelves at his feet. As ſoon as he was mounted, he called out to me to deſcend from the tree, and very graciouſly ordered a horſe to be brought for me, upon which I mounted directly, and we proceeded together towards this city. On our way, I found by inquiry that he was the ſon of the Viſier of Rajah Pri'tihi Péti, and that his name was Roop Singa. Suffice it to ſay, that when he found that my abilities in the ſcience of muſic were ſo conſiderable, he determined to detain me in his ſervice. In the mean time, as my Prince has beheld,

held, I was called to the banquet of the Rajah, in order to give a ſpecimen of my art. By theſe means, thanks be to Almighty God, the deſires of my heart are at length accompliſhed, and I have once more the felicity of beholding my ever dear Prince, friend, and maſter.

When Calávat Raſa Ranga had finiſhed his narration, the Prince Cámarúpa tenderly embraced him; and the next day, while they were ſeated at the banquet, he made the Rajah acquainted with the whole of his ſtory; who cordially congratulated the Prince, and received

Rafa Ranga with many tokens of regard.

Leaving now this affembly of friends, happy in each other, at the court of Rajah Pri'tihi Péti, we fhall return to the adventures of Samadhi Pachanan Pundit, who had been the original caufe and promoter of the late difaftrous journey.

The Adventures of Samadhi Pachanan, *a Brahmin, attached to Prince* Cámarúpa.

WHEN the fhip went down, Samadhi Pachanan Pundit, the Brah-

Brahmin, was committed to the mercy of the winds and waves. For the ſpace of three days he ſtruggled with fate; and at the expiration of that time, he was caſt on ſhore upon an iſland in the China ſeas. To this iſland many merchant ſhips reſorted, in order to take in goods, from whence they generally proceeded to the iſland of Serindib, to diſpoſe of their cargoes. In one of theſe ſhips Samadhi Pachanan embarked, and after a ſhort paſſage arrived at Serindib, where he made every poſſible inquiry, but without ſucceſs, of the Prince Cámarúpa, or any of his companions.

Find-

Finding himſelf diſappointed in every attempt to obtain intelligence, he determined to endeavour to get a ſight of the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü; and as he knew it was her cuſtom once a year to viſit the grand idol temple in that iſland, he went thither, and introduced himſelf to the prieſts of the temple, who knowing him to be a Brahmin, received him very courteouſly, and permitted him to attend the accuſtomed ſacrifices.

When the time of the annual viſitation of the Princeſs arrived, ſhe, attended by her friend Kaum Kullai, the daughter of the Viſier, paid

paid her ufual vifit to the temple. On their approach, Samhadi Pachanan concealed himfelf in a corner of the temple, in order to liften to their converfation.

As foon as the Princefs Kaum Lettaü perceived the temple free from people, fhe went forward towards her favourite idol, and after having made her reverence, in a fubmiffive tone thus offered up her addrefs: "O thou, to whom I
" have conftantly addreffed my fer-
" vent and devout prayers, attend
" and liften to the refolves of my
" heart! If by your favour I can
" obtain the defires of my foul,
" and

" and find out my beloved Prince
" Cámarúpa, for this token of re-
" gard I promiſe to preſent at your
" ſhrine immenſe wealth, gold and
" jewels of every denomination,
" and will alſo diſtribute large
" ſums of money for the benefit
" of Brahmins and holy men.
" But if you deny this my earneſt
" intreaty, then will I at your feet
" yield up my wretched exiſtence!"
Saying this, ſhe ſhed a ſhower of tears, which ſo affected the Brahmin that he could contain himſelf no longer, but coming forward, threw himſelf at the feet of the Princeſs, who inſtantly recollected him. She deſired him to riſe,

and inform her where he had been ſor ſo long a ſpace of time. He anſwered, That he had been to the kingdom of Oude; and then related the whole ſtory of the Prince Cámarúpa's paſſion for her, this ſubſequent journey in ſearch of her, and the ſhipwreck by which means he had been ſeparated from the Prince and the reſt of his companions; and added, that ſince that period he had heard nothing further concerning them. Kaum Kullai upon this earneſtly requeſted, that he would once more endeavour to find out the Prince. To which the Brahmin moſt willingly conſented; and taking leave of the Princeſs,

Princeſs, that inſtant ſet forward in ſearch of Cámarúpa.

After travelling many days without gaining any tidings of the Prince, Samhadi Pachanan came at length to the cottage of Gyán Achárya, the Derviſe before-mentioned. On his arrival, the Derviſe aſked him who he was, and what had brought him into ſo deſolate a place? Upon which Samadhi Pachanan replied, That he was an unfortunate traveller, in ſearch of a loſt companion, the Prince Camárúpa, ſon of the ſovereign of Oude. At this name, Gyán Achárya immediately diſcovered him-

himſelf to the Brahmin, and related the whole ſtory, of Camárúpa, and two of his companions, having been at his cell, whence they had departed with an intention of proceeding to Serindib; adding, that the Brahmin would on his return probably find him there. He concluded by requeſting him to remain at his cottage that night, and partake of ſome refreſhment.

Samadhi Pachanan rejoicing at this intelligence, returned his ſincere thanks to the Dervife, and having paſſed the night in the cottage, next morning ſet forward

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on his return to Serindib. Having arrived on that iſland, he went directly to the palace, and requeſted to ſpeak to one of the Princeſs's attendants, upon which Kaum Kullaü came out to him. The Brahmin, in order to deceive thoſe who were ſtanding near him, deſired the confidant to inform her miſtreſs, that while he was watching in the temple, ſleep had overtaken him, and the principal idol had appeared to him in a dream, and commanded him to inform the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü, that ſhe muſt perform her devotions at his ſhrine on the following morning.

Hav-

. Having delivered his meſſage, he returned to the idol temple, and next morning the Princeſs with her friend arriving, he told them the purpoſe of his journey, and every thing that the Derviſe Gyán Achárya had related to him. At this intelligence the lovely Princeſs was ſo overjoyed that her ſenſes entirely failed her ; but ſoon recovering, ſhe poured a number of jewels into the Brahmin's lap, expreſſing herſelf in terms the moſt grateful and rapturous ; then with a heart full of joy, returned to the palace, in ſpeedy hopes of ſeeing her beloved Prince, and accom-

pliſhing the only wiſh of her heart.

Here the ſtory leaves the Princeſs in this ſituation, and returns to the adventures of the Prince Cámarúpa and his companions, who were ſtill at the court of Rajah Pri'tihi Péti.

The Prince, wiſhing to depart in ſearch of his beloved Kaann Lettaü, addreſſed the Rajah to that purpoſe; but perceiving ſigns of uneaſineſs on his face, deſired to know the reaſon of it. The Rajah told him, that it lay very much

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in his power to oblige him, as his dominions had been a long time infeſted by a band of notorious robbers, who were making daily incurſions into his provinces, and he had lately received intelligence that they intended to make a grand attack upon his capital city of Dwáraká.

The Prince, penetrated with gratitude at the favours he had received, determined to attack the army of the enemy; and communicating his intentions to his companions, they unanimouſly agreed to accompany him in the enterpriſe. Accordingly, having taken

a confiderable body of the Rajah's troops, they fet out to the place of the enemy's encampment, near which they arrived a little before dark. Here Cámarúpa ordered his troops to halt, and difpatched his favourite, Mitra Chandra, to the enemy's army as a fpy, ordering him to bring intelligence of what was going on there, and how they were fituated.

Mitra Chandra, in the habit of a peafant, entered the camp unnoticed by any one, and found that they were all taken up in revelling and riot, and that the whole camp was a fcene of diffipation, drunkennefs,

enneſs, and debauchery. Returning to the Prince, he gave him an account of their ſituation, who thereupon determined to make a night attack upon the robbers, and having diſpoſed his troops accordingly, gave to each of his valliant friends a ſeparate command, himſelf leading the whole.

On their arrival at the enemy's camp, they inſtantly fell upon the robbers with great fury, who, being totally unprepared, were quickly routed, and vaſt numbers of them put to the ſword. The brave Prince Cámarúpa, with his own hand, put to death the Chief

of the band. In ſhort, a great booty was gained, and next day the conquerors returned in triumph to Dwárakà, where the Rajah received them with the moſt ſincere joy, congratulating them on their ſucceſs, and declaring that he never could enough reward them for their gallant and intrepid conduct, which had thus delivered him from his moſt potent adverſaries. He then kindly invited them to a magnificent banquet.

Next day the Prince demanded permiſſion to depart, which the Rajah granted, overwhelming him with thanks and praiſes for the ſer-

vices

vices which he had rendered him; and would have loaded him and his companions with riches, had they not unanimoufly refufed to accept them.

Every thing being prepared for their journey, Cámarúpa took an affectionate leave of Rajah Pri'tihi Péti, and fet out with his companions for the ifland of Serindib. After a fhort journey, during which nothing material occurred, they arrived at that celebrated ifland, when the Prince was elated with joy and fatisfaction at having at length approached fo near the object of his wifhes.

Upon a conſultation, the Prince and his companions determined to remain in a garden adjoining the city. Here they fixed their abode, until they could gain ſome information reſpecting the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü, and learn her true ſituation. For this purpoſe Chitra Mana was diſpatched into the city next morning, in order to find out Dhanwantari the Phyſician, who had all along been attending on the Princeſs, by the command of her father the Rajah, as before related.

When Chitra Mana entered the city, he ſoon met with Dhanwan-

tari, to whom he immediately made himſelf known, and acquainted him that his dear Prince and maſter, Rajah Cámarúpa, was arrived. Dhanwantari, at this happy event, was tranſported with joy; and having returned thanks to Heaven, haſtened with his friend Chitra Mana to throw himſelf at his maſter's feet. On his arrival Cámarúpa tenderly embraced his faithful friend, and requeſted him to relate every particular of his ſituation ſince their unfortunate ſeparation. Dhanwantari immediately obeyed, and related the whole of his adventures from firſt to laſt; concluding by

by telling him that his beloved miſtreſs, the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü, had been for ſome time in a bad ſtate of health, owing to her not having heard any tidings of him.

During this converſation Samadhi Pachanan arrived, and having embraced the Prince and the reſt of his companions, related to them the whole of his adventures.

When this faithful company had congratulated each other at the happy event of their once more meeting together, they began to

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confult on the moft eligible mode of informing the Princefs Kaann Lettaü of the arrival of Prince Cámarúpa. Upon this Budea Chaund arofe, and made the following propofal: "That he "fhould, by means of the filken "ftring before-mentioned, transf"form himfelf into a parrot, "when he fhould be able to vifit "the Princefs's palace undifcover"ed, and take the firft opportu"nity of informing her of the ar"rival of Cámarúpa, and concert "proper meafures for their future "meeting." The whole company approving this propofal, the Prince tied the ftring to Budea Chaund's

Chaund's foot, and he inſtantly aſſumed the ſhape of a bird ; then diſmiſſing him, the parrot preſently flew to the royal palace.

As ſoon as he had entered into the women's incloſure, he perceived the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü and her attendants ſitting under a cypreſs tree in the garden. She appeared overwhelmed with grief and melancholy, and her women were trying every means to divert and conſole their beloved miſtreſs. Budea Chaund perceiving this, flew directly oppoſite to the place where the Princeſs was ſitting, and perched himſelf on the branch of a

tree.

tree. Kaann Lettaü feeing a bird of moft beautiful plumage, inftantly rofe up, and without reflecting ran forward to catch it. The bird, upon her approach, flew forward to a fmall diftance, and then ftopped again. The Princefs following quickly, came up to it, and fpeedily catching it, put the parrot upon her wrift, and at the fame time laid hold of the filken ftring fhe perceived tied to his foot, that it might not again get away. The parrot immediately thus addreffed the Princefs: "How muft "the heart of that animal flutter "who becomes the prey of beauty "and elegance?" Then, to the

aſtoniſhment of the Princeſs, it began to warble forth ſuch exquiſite ſtrains of melody, that ſhe became perfectly enchanted by them.

Rejoiced at having obtained ſo deſirable a prize, ſhe called to her friend Kaum Kullai, and reſigned the bird into her hands, requeſting her to take all poſſible care of it, and then returned to the palace.

When night approached, and all her attendants, except Kaum Kullai, were gone, the bird began to peck at the ſtring round his foot with his bill, which the attendant perceiving, conceived that the animal

wiſhed

wiſhed to releaſe himſelf, and accordingly taking hold of the ſtring, looſened it from the foot; when, to the aſtoniſhment of them both, the bird aſſumed the form of a man, and inſtantly fell at the feet of the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü. They were upon the point of calling out for aſſiſtance, when the Pundit aſſuming a moſt reſpectful behaviour, informed them, That his name was Budea Chaund, the ſervant and friend of Prince Cámarúpa, who had juſt arrived in the iſland of Serindib, and had taken up his abode in a garden adjoining the city, whence he had been diſpatched by him with the happy intelli-

telligence, and to expreſs the moſt affectionate regard and devotion to the will of his dear Princeſs.

At this pleaſing intelligence, Kaann Lettaü was filled with joy, and embracing her friend, let fall a ſhower of tears upon her boſom; then turning to Budea Chaund, ſhe bid him welcome in the moſt engaging manner, and requeſted him to inform her by what means her beloved Cámarúpa had arrived in the city.

Budea Chaund, in modeſt and eloquent terms, related the whole affair, from the firſt moment when the

the Prince beheld her in his dream until the preſent hour.

When the Princeſs heard the whole ſtory, her beautiful countenance at one time aſſumed the appearance of the early dew upon the graſs, from the pearly tears gently trickling down her lovely cheeks, outvying the bluſhing roſe; and at another time, her coral lips, like the opening roſe-bud, diffuſed the bloſſoms of the early ſpring ſmiling with ineffable ſweetneſs and affability. After preſenting her ſincere thanks to the Pundit, ſhe retired to reſt; and next morning going to the apartments of

her friend, ſhe deſired Budea Chaund to return to Prince Cámarúpa, and preſent him with her moſt affectionate remembrance.

When the Princeſs had finiſhed, her friend Kaum Kullai told Budea Chaund, that juſt before his arrival, the father and mother of the Princeſs, finding that ſhe benefited not by the exertions that were made by the phyſicians, had reſolved to give her in marriage to one of the many Princes who had been long paying their addreſſes to her; and for that purpoſe had iſſued a proclamation, adviſing all the Princes and Rajahs who had declared

clared their affection for Kaann Lettaü, to assemble at the grand festival of Swayamvara, which was to take place in about forty days; when it was resolved, that she should on that day give her hand in marriage to one of the suitors. The confidant therefore requested Budea Chaund to be careful to inform Cámarúpa of this resolution, and desire him not to *fail being* present on the appointed day; and in order that he might be the better distinguished amongst the crowd, it was determined that the Prince and his companions should appear disguised under the habits of holy dervises. Having communicated

to him the plan, ſhe again tied the ſilken ſtring to Budea Chaund's foot, and he inſtantly winged his flight through the air to the Prince and his faithful companions, who were in the garden anxiouſly expecting his return.

As ſoon as Büdea Chaund arrived, the Prince immediately looſened the ſilken ſtring, and Budea Chaund aſſumed his natural form. He then gave Cámarúpa an exact account of all he had ſeen and heard. The Prince, in raptures at this joyful intelligence, embraced his friend in the moſt affectionate manner; and they all with one voice

voice joined in congratulating him on the happy event.

Agreeably to the proclamation of the King of Serindib, many Princes and Rajahs made their appearance on the day appointed, attended by a magnificent train of courtiers and numerous attendants, each inſpired with the hope of obtaining this all-accompliſhed Princeſs.

A few days before the feſtival, Prince Cámarúpa deſired his friend Budea Chaund to return once more to the palace and ſee his beloved Kaann Lettaii, and tell her, that on the day of the feſtival he would

certainly be preſent, agreeably to the plan propoſed; and as a ſurer indication that he would be ſo, he deſired him to inform the Princeſs, that ſhe might, in the crowd, perceive Dhanwantari the phyſician, and the Brahmin Samadhi Pachanan, whom ſhe knew, and that Budea Chaund, in the form of a bird, would be perched upon the Prince's wriſt.

Having given theſe inſtructions, and tied the ſilken ſtring to his foot, the Pundit flew into the air, and directed his way to the palace. On his arrival he perceived the Princeſs and her attendants ſeated

at

at a magnificent banquet, at which was alſo preſent the mother, the Rana Gulbi Laetti, who appeared much delighted at the happy alteration in her daughter's health. When the banquet was ended, and all the attendants except Kaum Kullai had retired, the parrot deſcended from the place where he was perched, and flew towards the Princeſs; who inſtantly knowing her diligent and faithful meſſenger, unlooſened the ſtring from his foot, and the Pundit aſſumed his natural ſhape. He then delivered his maſter's meſſage to the Princeſs, who returned him many thanks for the trouble to which he had been put;

and taking a vial of ottar of roſes, put it into the Pundit's hand, deſiring him to preſent it to her beloved Prince, as a token of her unalterable love and affection. She then retired to reſt; and Budea Chaund again aſſuming the form of a bird, flew back to his own habitation.

The Prince being informed of what had happened, and preſented with the vial of ottah which the Princeſs had committed to the care of his friend, fixing his eye on this token of affection from his dear Kaann Lettaü, he became filled with joy and gladneſs, and inſtantly

ſtantly applied the contents to his face and eyebrows, kiſſing and embracing Budea Chaund, and declaring himſelf to be the happieſt of mortals.

The feſtival of Secambur now approached, and on the preceding day Cámarúpa once more intreated Budea Chaund to return to the palace, and repeat the meſſage which he had formerly carried, leſt the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü by chance might have forgot it. The Pundit accordingly prepared to depart, but Mitra Chandra, the favourite friend of Cámarúpa, at that inſtant riſing up, requeſted the Prince's

Prince's permiſſion to ſend his beſt affections by Budea Chaund to the beautiful Kaum Kullai; adding, that from the report he had heard of her, he was become much enamoured. Cámarúpa ſmiling, conſented to the requeſt, and Budea Chaund again aſſumed the ſhape of a bird, and departed to the palace.

On his arrival, finding the Princeſs and Kaum Kullai alone, he flew towards them, and on aſſuming his natural ſhape, delivered his meſſage. He then told the Princeſs, that he had another meſſage to communicate, namely, the beſt affec-

affections of Mitra Chandra, the faithful friend and confidant of his master, and son of the Visier of Oude, to her attendant Kaum Kullai, with whom he declared that he had been so enamoured, from the report of her accomplishments in both mind and person; adding, that he could not live without her, and that his existence would be no longer desirable if he did not obtain the object of his affection.

When Budea Chaund had finished, the Princess laughed heartily at the circumstance; and turning to her friend, desired her by all means to return thanks to the young Mitra

tra Chandra. To this, however, ſhe would not agree; but was much offended at the Pundit for having delivered the meſſage. Kaum Kullai remaining ſilent, the Princeſs was angry, and aſked her what reaſon ſhe could have for refuſing the attachment of ſo amiable a man as Mitra Chandra was reported by all to be; and added, that ſhe knew from Dhanwantari the phyſician, that his ſentiments of her were long ago declared. Having ſaid this, ſhe turned from her haſtily. The beauteous Kaum Kullai no ſooner perceived the diſpleaſure of the Rana to increaſe, than ſhe turned aſide her face, and

with a thouſand bluſhes occaſioned by virgin modeſty, deſired Budea Chaund to return her good wiſhes to his friend.

Budea Chaund now took his leave, and returning to the Prince, informed him of what had happened; and alſo related the meſſage of Kaum Kullai to his friend Mitra Chandra, who was enraptured at the report, and indulged the pleaſing idea of enjoying his miſtreſs at the ſame time that the Prince ſhould be united to the object whom he had ſo long ardently ſought, and for whoſe ſake he had undergone ſuch trouble and affliction.

The

The feſtival of Secambur now arrived. Early in the morning the Rajah Chitra Péti iſſued from his palace, attended by all the lords of his court, dreſſed in their moſt ſplendid apparel; and having arrived at the place of aſſembly, ſeated himſelf on a magnificent throne of pure gold, placed on a large and ſpacious ſcaffolding erected for the purpoſe. Soon after, all the Princes and Rajahs, who had come as ſuitors to the Princeſs, made their appearance, each attended by his reſpective train. To this feſtival the choiceſt muſicians were engaged, and the whole aſſembly reſounded with melody, mirth, and

dancing.

dancing. The incomparable princess Kaann Lettaü, conspicuous above all for the symmetry of her form and beauty of her countenance, soon appeared, adorned with a profusion of the richest jewels, and most gorgeously apparelled, entered the assembly, seated on a golden litter. She was attended by an hundred virgins of most enchanting appearance, each of whom seemed to outvie, in loveliness and elegance, the fairies of the celestial regions. The Princess held in her hand a necklace of flowers, which her father ordered her to bestow upon that Prince whom she should chuse for her husband.

When ſhe entered the aſſembly, all the Princes, aſtoniſhed at ſuch a blaze of beauty, ſet up a loud ſhout, and many were, by the power of her charms, inſtantly deprived of their ſenſes, while others began the moſt extravagant exclamations. All anxiouſly waited the approach of the Princeſs, each hoping to be the happy mortal towards whom his propitious deity might direct her choice. Kaann Lettaü being arrived in the circle, threw her eyes around on every ſide, anxiouſly deſirous of beholding the only object of her wiſhes. For ſome time ſhe could not diſcover either him or his faithful companions;

panions; but chance leading her to that ſide where the crowd was much more numerous, ſhe at length ſaw Dhanwantari the phyſician, and Samhadi Pachanan the Brahmin, and preſently after, to her great joy and ſatisfaction, her ever dearly beloved Prince Cámarúpa, ſitting in the midſt of his companions in the habit of a dervise. This ſight had ſuch an effect upon her that ſhe inſtantly fainted away, and it was ſome time before Kaum Kullai could recal her to life, by ſprinkling her face with roſe-water, and uſing every other means in her power, which at laſt had the happy effect. She then told

thoſe who ſurrounded the Princeſs, that the occaſion of her illneſs was the extreme heat of the aſſembly.

It happened that Cámarúpa, at the inſtant the Princeſs beheld him, alſo met her eye; and the ſight of ſo much ſoul-inflaming beauty ſo violently affected him, that he alſo fell ſenſeleſs to the ground in the midſt of his companions. By their endeavours, however, having recovered, he caſt his eyes about eagerly in ſearch of the Princeſs, who at that inſtant ordering her litter to move on, came up to Cámarúpa, and in preſence of the whole aſſembly threw the necklace

upon

upon his neck, and at the ſame inſtant embraced him in a moſt affectionate manner.

At this ſcene the whole aſſembly ſet up a murmur; and the Brahmins and other holy men, going up to the Prince, ſnatched the necklace from him, and gave it back to Kaann Lettaü; at the ſame time reproaching her for being a diſgrace to her family, in beſtowing ſuch a mark of affection upon a poor derviſe and beggar, when ſo many illuſtrious and powerful Princes were courting her alliance. But little did this avail, for the Princeſs taking hold of the neck-

lace a ſecond time, threw it again on the neck of Cámarúpa, with every mark of cordial affection and eſteem.

At the repetition of this act, the Princes and Rajahs loſt all patience, and riſing from their ſeats, went to the King Rajah Chitra Péti, and informed him of the diſgraceful ſcene they had witneſſed.

The Rajah upon this, ordered the Brahmins and holy men to the aſſembly, and commanded them to aſſign a reaſon for this extraordinary conduct of his daughter. They one and all replied, that ſhe muſt have

have been practifed upon by the art of magic; and advifed the Prince, for the prefent, to difmifs the affembly of Secambur, and appoint another day for the meeting; and in the mean time to confine in prifon that audacious dervife and his infolent companions, until they fhould be able to find out by what means they had bewitched the affections of Kaann Lettaü. The Prince confented to this advice, and having difmiffed the affembly, gave orders that Cámarúpa and his companions fhould immediately be feized, and thrown into a deep pit adjoining to the palace, the place in which malefactors were ufually

confined. This order was inſtantly obeyed, and the unfortunate fate-impelled Prince and his faithful friends were, without reſerve, thrown into that loathſome priſon; where for the preſent the ſtory leaves them, and proceeds to relate the ſubſequent events.

As ſoon as the Rajah returned to his palace, he ſent for his daughter in great wrath, and having reproached her for the diſgrace which ſhe had brought upon him, ſolemnly ſwore that he would confine her for the remainder of her life in an inacceſſible priſon. He accordingly ordered a place to be built,

inclofed within a very high wall, and when it was finifhed, he removed the Princefs thither, with all her effects, allowing her no other companion than her friend Kaum Kullai.

This unfortunate Princefs being fhut up from the world and fociety, and condemned to pafs the remainder of her days in prifon, her affection for Cámarúpa became more fervent when fhe reflected on the punifhment which he was doomed to undergo for her fake. Deeply impreffed with this diftreffing idea, fhe fhed abundance of tears, and never ceafed day or night bewail-

ing the unhappy fate of her dear Prince, often declaring that ſhe would die a thouſand deaths rather than prove unkind, or forſake him.

While ſhe was thus lamenting her hard fortune, Cámarúpa and his companions were conſulting together in their miſerable dungeon by what means they were moſt likely to obtain their liberty. Juſt at this moment Mitra Chandra recollected the hairs which the demon Huddum had beſtowed upon him at parting, when he was on the point of being devoured by his companions; and who had promiſed that whenever he ſhould burn

burn one of thoſe hairs, he would inſtantly come to his aſſiſtance, and deliver him from any evil which might befal him. He therefore propoſed to the Prince, that he ſhould try what effect the burning of the hairs would have. The propoſal being agreed to, and Mitra Chandra having made a fire, he put into it one of the hairs, when preſently after a loud clap of thunder was heard, and the demon Huddum made his appearance at the mouth of the pit. At this hideous ſight, the guards who had been placed there by order of the Rajah, were ſtruck with terror, and they all took to flight with

the utmoſt ſpeed. Huddum, after kicking away the ſtone that covered the mouth of the pit, looked down, and perceiving the Prince and his companions, aſked them, what they wanted with him? Looking up, they were ſo much terrified that they could not utter a ſyllable, but inſtantly began to put up their prayers to God. Mitra Chandra, however, knowing him, called out from the bottom of the pit, and returned him his ſincereſt thanks for having punctually performed his promiſe; and concluded by requeſting, that he would deliver the Prince Cámarúpa and his unfortunate companions from their preſent dread-

dreadful ſituation. Huddum knowing the voice of Mitra Chandra, upon this application deſcended into the pit, and taking hold of Cámarúpa by one hand, and Mitra Chandra by the other, brought them both out, and then did the ſame by the remainder of his companions.

When this moſt acceptable ſervice was performed, he addreſſed the Prince, and told him he had long wiſhed to do him ſervice, and that if he pleaſed, he would go that inſtant and bring the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü before him. The Prince returned Huddum many thanks;

thanks; but told him, that for the present he only requested to be conveyed to some distance from the island of Serindib. Upon which Huddum having taken up the Prince and all his companions, conveyed them through the air with incredible velocity to a mountainous country inhabited by robbers, at a considerable distance from Serindib. When he had done this, with his own hands he built a fort for them, with every thing suitable; and then having demanded of Cámarúpa if he had any further service for him, the Prince informed him that he had not, but that he should never be able to

repay

repay the obligations he had already received. The demon Huddum then took his leave, with the promiſe of being ready on all accaſions when his ſervices ſhould be required.

The Prince and his companions remained in their fort, conſulting what ſhould be the reſult of their future operations. After much deliberation it was determined to aſſemble an army as ſoon as poſſible, and to go at the head of it to Serindib, where Cámarúpa ſhould diſcover himſelf to the Rajah, and demand the Princeſs Kaann Lettaü in marriage. For this

this purpoſe they firſt made an alliance with the robbers before mentioned, who inhabited the mountain; and the Prince recollecting the preſent of his friend the derviſe Gyán Achárya, namely, the Sungi Parus, which, as before deſcribed, had the property of turning whatever it touched into gold, he determined to make uſe of it upon this occaſion; and by theſe means having acquired incredible wealth, he engaged a conſiderable army in his ſervice, and having appointed his friends to ſeparate commands, when every thing was ready, he ſet forward on his march for the iſland of Serindib. After many

many days travel, they at length reached it.

As ſoon as intelligence of his arrival was received at the Rajah's court, he made every neceſſary preparation to defend his dominions, and having collected his troops, ſent them againſt the army of Cámarúpa, under the command of his Viſier Gee Singa. The two armies ſhortly after encountering, a violent conflict enſued; but the propitious ſtar of Prince Cámarúpa prevailing over the malignant one of his adverſary, he gained a moſt complete victory, in which he took priſoner the Viſier himſelf; and with-

without further delay, he inſtantly directed his march to the capital, hoping to take it by ſurprize; but intelligence arriving of the defeat of the Viſier Gee Singa, the Rajah Chitra Péti became impreſſed with the greateſt deſpair, and inſtantly ordering the gates of the fort to be ſhut, made preparations to defend himſelf from a ſiege.

The Prince Cámarúpa, on his march to the capital, was perſuaded, by the advice of his friends, to purſue more lenient meaſures; and agreeing with them, he determined to liberate his priſoner Gee Singa the Viſier, and ſend him to the

Rajah

Rajah with offers of alliance and friendſhip. With him he alſo ſent his friend Mitra Chandra, with orders to inform the Rajah who he was, and wherefore he had thus come againſt him in arms; at the ſame time to tell him of the paſſion he had long entertained for the incomparable Princeſs Kaann Lettaü, for whoſe ſake he had undergone ſo many dangers and difficulties, and which alone had induced him to appear in the habit of a miſerable faquier.

Having finiſhed his inſtructions, he diſmiſſed them both, and encamped his army one day's journey

from the capital, determined there to wait the ſucceſs of his embaſſy. The Viſier Gee Singa and Mitra Chandra arriving at the court of the Rajah, went directly to the palace, and being brought before the Prince, they delivered their reſpective meſſages. The Rajah was much rejoiced at ſeeing his miniſter returned, and embraced him affectionately; then turning to Mitra Chandra, in a moſt affable manner he told him, that he ſhould conſider the alliance of ſo mighty a Prince as a great honour, and that if Cámarúpa had before informed him of his rank, and the affection which he had for the Princeſs

his

his daughter, he would have received the greateſt pleaſure and ſatisfaction in preferring him, without heſitation, to all the other Princes that were aſſembled at the feſtival of Secambur; and hoped, that on account of his ignorance of the Prince's quality, he would excuſe the hardſhips which he had undergone. He concluded his diſcourſe by requeſting Mitra Chandra to inform Prince Cámarúpa, that on the morrow he intended himſelf the honour of paying a viſit to the Prince in his camp. He then ordered moſt magnificent preſents to be brought, which he delivered to Mitra Chandra, and diſmiſſed

 him

him from the preſence. This being done, he ordered rejoicings to be made throughout the city upon this moſt auſpicious event; and that a ſolemn proclamation ſhould be iſſued, that the illuſtrious Rajah Cámarúpa, ſon to the ſovereign of Oude, was on the point of entering his capital city, and that every neceſſary preparation ſhould be made to receive ſo noble a gueſt.

Mitra Chandra departing with the preſents, ſoon arrived at his maſter's camp, and informed him of all that had happened, and of the Rajah's intentions of paying him a viſit. Upon this, Cámarúpa ordered

ordered his tents to be ſtruck, and marched directly for Serindib. On his arrival near the city gates, he ſtopped and encamped for that night. In the morning the Rajah Chitra Péti, accompanied by his nobles and courtiers, moſt ſumptuouſly apparelled, came out of the city, and went directly to the Prince's camp. Cámarúpa upon this haſtened to meet him, and when they had arrived within a ſmall diſtance of each other, the Prince, agreeably to the cuſtoms and manners of the age, deſcended from his elephant, and made the Coorniſh and Teſleem to the Rajah Chitra Péti. The Rajah then

alighted from his elephant, and raiſing up the Prince in a moſt affectionate manner, bid him welcome to his dominions, which he had thus ennobled by his exalted dignity. After this friendly ſalutation had paſſed, the Prince led the Rajah into a magnificent tent, where he had prepared a noble banquet for his reception. Theſe two illuſtrious monarchs, ſeated on a golden couch, appeared like the two reſplendent planets Jupiter and Saturn, in one conjunction; while all around them, ſtruck with the magnificence of the ſcene, returned their thanks aloud to the Deity for this happy event.

The

The banquet being finiſhed, the Prince Cámarúpa and the Rajah Chitra Péti returned to the city on the ſame elephant; and on their arrival the Rajah led the Prince to the palace, which had been prepared for the reception of him and his companions, and then retired to give orders, and fix a time for the celebration of the nuptials of his beloved daughter, whom he had ordered to be releaſed from her confinement, and acquainted with the happy arrival of her dear Rajah Cámarúpa. The enamoured Princeſs, overcome with joy at this unexpected and happy event, reſigned herſelf to the pleaſing idea

of at length accomplifhing the wifhes of her heart, and of rewarding her beloved Cámarúpa for his conftancy and affection.

Rajah Chitra Péti having ordered the aftrologers of his kingdom to affemble, requefted that they would confult the planets for a fortunate hour in which the marriage might be folemnized. The aftrologers, in obedience to the commands of their Prince, retired; and after fome days returned, declaring that they had fixed on a moft aufpicious moment for the celebration of this fortunate event. Upon this intelligence the Rajah gave orders for rejoicings to be made throughout all

all his dominions, and the city of Serindib became the abode of joy, feſtivity, and delight.

The day being fixed, the Rajah, accompanied by the nobles of his court, appeared in the great hall of the palace, where he diſtributed the largeſt and moſt valuable of his elephants, adorned in a ſumptuous manner, and jewels of high price in profuſion, to all who had been invited to the celebration of the nuptials. The banquet was prepared, and a train of the choiceſt muſicians and dancers, by their exquiſite performances, contributed to enliven the amuſement of this illuſtrious aſſembly.

When

When night approached, the Prince Cámarúpa, quitting his own palace, mounted a ſpirited courſer, and dreſſed in the moſt gorgeous apparel, attended by his faithful companions, went to the royal palace, and entering the aſſembly, all preſent were aſtoniſhed at his exquiſite beauty and graceful mien. The Rajah on ſeeing him aroſe, and taking him by the hand, led him up a long and ſpacious flight of ſteps to a golden throne, embelliſhed with the moſt brilliant and richeſt jewels of Golconda, where he ſeated him amidſt the acclamations of the ſurrounding ſpectators.

The

The auſpicious moment being now arrived, the aſtrologers, Brahmins, and Pundits of the court approached the aſſembly with all due reſpect and ſubmiſſion, and having ſignified that the hour of the nuptial ceremony was propitious, the whole court reſounded with joy and delight, and congratulations to the Prince on his approaching felicity. The Rajah, his nobles, and courtiers then ſeparately preſented the Prince with magnificent gifts; after which Cámarúpa, leaving the aſſembly, departed to the palace of his beloved Princeſs; and thus, after a thouſand heart-afflicting difficulties, dangerous travels, and inume-

numerable disasters and obstacles, was at length received into the arms of his affectionate wife, the reward he so richly merited; and these two fortunate lovers enjoyed in the company of each other the supremest bliss that mortals can experience. The rejoicings and entertainments continued many days, and each day was more magnificent and splendid than the former.

When the Prince Cámarúpa had thus possessed himself of the object of his affections, he was not unmindful of his faithful friend Mitra Chandra. Recollecting the passion

ſion he entertained for the beautiful Kaum Kullai, he aſked permiſſion of the Rajah for the marriage of his friend; which being given, the nuptials of theſe two lovers were celebrated with equal ſplendor to that of the Prince and his miſtreſs Kaann Lettaü.

The Queen at the accuſtomed period brought forth a ſon, which added an increaſe of felicity to Prince Cámarúpa; and nothing was now wanting to complete his happineſs, but the acquainting his father of the events that had happened. For this purpoſe he requeſted permiſſion of the Rajah of

Serindib to make a journey to Indoſtan, in order that he might once more embrace his affectionate parents. Chitra Péti conſented to the requeſt, provided that he would leave his infant ſon behind, to whom he promiſed the ſucceſſion of his dominions. Cámarúpa agreeing to the propoſal, preparations were made for his departure, together with that of his dear Princeſs Kaann Lettaü. Mitra Chandra alſo, with Kaum Kullai and the reſt of his companions, were alſo to accompany them.

Having taken an affectionate leave of the old Rajah, the Prince

and

and Princefs fet out for the kingdom of Indoftan, where they arrived in due time, to the inexpreffible joy of the father and mother of Cámarupa, who were ftill alive, and who had long regretted in forrow and anxiety the abfence of their dear fon.

As every advantage and happinefs in this life is, by decree of Almighty Providence, chequered with a degree of evil and misfortune, fhortly after the arrival of Prince Cámarúpa, the aged Rajah yielded up his life into the hands of his Creator, to the great grief of his fon and daughter. Upon this, Cámarú-

marúpa, after mourning the accuſtomed time, aſcended the throne of his anceſtors; and he and his beloved Princeſs Kaann Lettaü continued to reign many years over the kingdom of Oude with juſtice and beneficence, the admiration and delight of all their ſubjects.

A GLOS-

rent cow.—8. *Iraput*, a white elephant.—9. *Ujjur Serwa*, a horſe with eight heads.—10. *Chundur Man*, the Moon.—11. *Senkh*, a conch ſhell, which on ſounding beſtowed victory on the poſſeſſor.—12. *Rama Patara*, a beautiful woman.—13. *Kowuſtuc Mun*, a wonderful reſplendent jewel of ineſtimable price.—14. *Bekh*, deadly poiſon.

Page 5, line 14. *Chitra Mana*]—Wonderful mind.

Ibid. line 15. *Mánickya Chandra*]—The Moon's gem.

Page 6, line 2. *Calávat Raſa Ranga*]—Skilled in the art of muſic, and preſiding over theatrical entertainments; *Ras* being the ſame as *Rag*, a muſical meaſure of the Hindoos; and, according to the opinion of Sir William Jones, the *Ragni*, or ſeven diviſions of muſic, are perſonified in fable and called the *Nymphs of Harmony*.—[See the *Aſiatic Miſcellany*, Vol. I. *Preface to the Hymn to Indra.*]

Page 16, line 1. "*The Prince thus undeceived,*

"*uttered a loud ſhout, and inſtantly ſwoon-*
"*ed away*"]—This exceſs of grief, ariſing only from a dream, may appear at firſt, to an European reader, as abſurd and improbable; it is therefore neceſſary he ſhould be appriſed that the Aſiatics, in deſcribing the effects of the paſſion of love, are unanimous in their opinion and belief of the dreadful circumſtances occaſioned by it. The very name of *Mejnoon*, (a lover whoſe ſtory has been ſo beautifully related by the poet Hàtifi,) implies in the Perſian language, inſane, diſtracted, furious; as if the paſſion of love had totally ſubverted reaſon and the mental powers. The concurring teſtimony of the preſent inhabitants of India and Perſia affords additional ſtrength to their national prejudices, and in this light the effects above deſcribed will be deemed leſs abſurd.

Page 22, line 2. *Samadhi Pachanan*]—Equal to *Makadeo* in ſcience, or mature in ſcience.

Page 25, line 6. *Chitra Pèti*]—The wonderful monarch.

Page 26, line 5. *Cámalatà*]—The plant of love.

Page 28, line 10. *Serendib*, or *Singhala-diupa*]—The Isle of Lion, like Men; the modern Ceylon.

Ibid. line 14. *Cámacalà*]—The art of love.

Page 33, line 6. *Mutchelee Bundur*]—called by Europeans *Masulipatnam*, a well-known port on the coast of Coromandel.

Page 45, line 5. *Tirea Raj*]—Kingdom of the women.

Page 46, line 3. *Indrawati*]—Like Indra, God of the Sky.

Page 49, line 11. *Pudmawati*]—Like a Lotos flower. This alludes to the name of a Princess in Hindoo story, who is said to have had the scent or fragrance of the Lotos flower to distil from her body, in consequence of which she received the appellation of *Pudmawati*; she was, according to the fa-

ble,

ble, the wife of Rajah Rattan Sing, Prince of Chittore.

Page 59, line ult. *Nârawati*]—Like a drop of water.

Page 63, line 14. *Mount Câf*]—This place is a mountain much celebrated in Oriental fable, where thoſe beings denominated Dives and Perees, or demons and fairies, are ſuppoſed to reſide. The Dives are a race of evil genii, who are conſtantly roving about the world to do all the miſchief they can to mankind. They are in their natures malignant and ſpiteful, and directly oppoſite to the Perees, who are of a mild and benevolent diſpoſition, frequently doing good, and aſſiſting mortals to the utmoſt of their power, by counteracting the evil deſigns of the demons. The Mountain Câf, their reſidence, is the ſcene of many ſurpriſing relations and adventures, ſo fully deſcribed in Eaſtern poetry; this place is called by Meninſki, *Caucaſus*.

Page 67, line 8. *Soondaróo*]—The beautiful.

Page 76, line 3. "*The men with leathern feet*"]

feet"]—*Duwâl Paieân*,—a race of men, as defcribed by Caftellus, inhabiting a country to the north of Indoftan; they decoy travellers in the manner above related, and afterwards either ftrangle, or retain them as flaves.——[See *Meninfki*, vol. ii. page 2154.]——Of the exiftence of this race of men a belief is very prevalent in Afia; but from fuch belief, and the monftrous abfurdity of it, no inference can be drawn that they do exift. If, as the Tranflator has heard remarked, morality is fometimes inculcated by the Afiatics under the pleafing garb of allegory and fiction, we may conjecture that the author intended to reprefent a barbarous and uncivilized race, under the fable of the *Duwâl Paieân;* in this light it will not be unconfonant to reafon to place it.

Page 81, line 7. "*Dafhed out his brains*—"]—That I might not anticipate the reader, I have delayed pointing out until this period the ftriking fimilarity this adventure of Cámarúpa's

bears to the ſtory of the celebrated *Sinbad the Sailor*, ſo pleaſantly related in the *Arabian Tales*; it is indeed word for word with that; and if *Cámarúpa* be taken from the original Sanſcrit, (of which it bears ſuch ſtrong internal marks, as well of names as of local alluſions,) we ſhall not, on this occaſion, heſitate to yield the merit of invention not to the *Arabian*, but to the *Indian* author.

Page 110, line 5. "*I perceived an old woman*—"]—The ſimilitude this ſtory bears to the *Tale of Adonis* and the *Judge's Wife* in *Arioſto*, will undoubtedly ſtrike the reader; and it is very probable that poet had in view ſome original Eaſtern tale when he compoſed his *Orlando Furioſo*. Many of his wild ſtories are unqueſtionably of Oriental fabric, from which a very fair inference may be drawn, that thoſe highly romantic tales and fables ſo prevalent in Italy during the firſt centuries, are of Aſiatic origin, and were introduced into Europe about the time of the firſt cruſades, or perhaps